



THE TIMES Tomorrow

Post Madhur Jaffrey, first of four guest cooks, on vegetarian cooking.

Pop Penny Perick tunes into the stalwarts of Barry Manilow's international fan club.



Fits Spectrum looks at the mammoth effort to repair the damage to York-shire's new coalfield.

Privatization Will contractors really clean up on hospitals' dirty washing? Part two of our series on privatization.

Progress Lord Harris of High Cross pleads for an end to the laws that impede economic advance.

TV plea of innocence by Marcos

President Marcos of the Philippines went on television to deny responsibility for the death of Benigno Aquino, and blame both the opposition and the foreign press for giving his Government bad publicity. The President's opponents pledged to continue Mr Aquino's campaign for non-violent reform.

The Libya card

Israeli intelligence material on Libyan intentions in Africa is helping the Begin Government's rapprochement with Black Africa. Liberia's main demand for resuming diplomatic relations was the sharing of the Mossad dossier on Libyan activities.

Burnt sculpture

A decision is expected today on whether to rebuild a South Bank sculpture made of 6,000 tyres. A man is being treated in hospital for severe burns.

Pound rises

The pound closed 1.1 cents up against the dollar at \$1.5290. Shares continued their record run with the FT index closing 4.7 up at 740.4.

Wembley circus

Professional (Rugby) Union teams representing England, Wales, Australia and New Zealand could be playing at Wembley early next year in the first games of a "circus" involving 200 leading players.

Ojukwu loses

Mr Ojukwu, the former Biafran leader, failed to make a political comeback in Nigeria when he was defeated in his attempt to become a federal senator.

Women at risk

Sexual harassment at work is causing women physical and mental illness, lost promotion, forcing them to leave their jobs and sometimes causing their dismissal, a TUC report says.

Stud chance

Shareef Dancer, the Arab-owned Classic winner, is to be syndicated for a probable world record sum, and will stand at stud near Newmarket.

Letters: On Soviet imperialism, from Mr Correlli Barnett; privatization, from Mr G. C. Ingram; religious broadcasting, from Mr John Whitney.

Leading articles: International Development Association; the Philippines; breakfast television. Features, pages 6-8 Greater control of public utilities; Israel's return to international favour; rocking to rule in Hungary; Spectrum: how doomed monkeys mean big business. Fashion, the marriage of pop and punk.

Computer Horizons, page 13: Big US-Scottish terminal deal for banks; finding jobs by electronics.

Obituary, page 10 Dr Eric Kamm, Sir Francis Evans, Brigadier C. C. Parkman.

Home News	2.5	Crossword	22
Overseas	4.5	Diary	8
Apps	17.1		
Arts	11	Leisure	9
Bridge	10	Science	10
Business	14-17	Sport	17-19
Church	10	TV & Radio	21
Court	10	Weather	22

40ft dining car crushed into 6ft wreckage by impact

Irish train disaster on fail-safe system

From Richard Ford, Kildare

An investigation into the train crash in the Irish Republic on Sunday night in which seven people were killed began last night. Ten passengers were seriously hurt and another 40 are being treated in hospital.

The investigators will have to find whether the accident was caused by human error or the breakdown of a supposedly fail safe centralized signalling system, and a back-up procedure intended to prevent accidents of this kind.

The accident, involving a train from Galway to Dublin and a stationary train from Tralee, co Kerry, occurred on a piece of track where the special automatic warning system, similar to that run by British Rail, has operated for six years.

The inquiry will want to discover how it was unable to prevent the collision between two trains, each crowded with 500 passengers.

The system is controlled from a central unit at Dublin's Connolly station, which monitors train movements on that section of track.

The inquiry will also want to discover if reports that the train from Tralee had run out of diesel fuel are true and whether the guard on the train had had time to place the first of three warning detonators behind the carriages before the crash occurred.

The train from co Kerry had been affected by mechanical failure early in its journey but had managed to reach Mallow, co Cork, where its engine was changed. It was running 20 minutes late by the time it reached Cherryville.

If the fail-safe system had been working properly Mr Peter Brady, driver of the Galway train, should have stopped at a red signal at Monasteravin. The inquiry will want to know why the driver did not stop if the

signal was indeed operating properly. In the republic if a driver passes through a red signal there is no alarm bell which rings in his cabin resulting in the brakes being automatically applied, as occurs on British Rail.

Usually in the republic the driver of a train approaching a section blocked by another train first comes across an amber signal which authorizes him to proceed very slowly to the next signal. If the section is still blocked, he will find a red signal and is forbidden to go any further but instead should leave his train, use special telephones to contact the central unit and discover the cause of the problem.

Even if there is vandalism or a fault in the system the signals are supposed to automatically turn red and cannot be changed until the system has been repaired.

Initial investigation of the collision have indicated to crash investigators that vandalism did not play a part in the tragedy, but it is too early to say whether the crash was due to the system failing or human error. A spokesman for CIE, the republic's state-run transport company, said: "The system works and has worked perfectly if it is respected and used properly."

As dawn broke yesterday the full horror of the crash was revealed with the dining car in which most of the seven dead had been travelling concentrated from 40 feet to six feet by the impact of the collision.

The force of the impact shunted the first-class carriage at the rear of the stationary Tralee train over the top of the dining car. The compartment, made of wooden body in the early 1950s, was wrecked from its steel frame as wood splintered.

Continued on back page, col 7



The telescoped dining car in which seven passengers died in the crash at Cherryville

Defence cuts 'have left Navy weak'

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Royal Navy has been so badly cut back that it no longer has the balance needed for general maritime operations, it is claimed today.

The damage done by the 1981 review of defence spending was so great that "even with the recantations forced on the Government" by the Falklands conflict, the fleet shows severe defects in many kinds of operation.

Because of the Navy's weakness, only two major ports could be kept open in the face of a sustained minelaying campaign by an enemy country. Present policies might mean that the UK could not meet its commitments to the North Atlantic alliance.

These claims are made by the editor of *Jane's Fighting Ships* in the forward to the latest edition of the definitive study of world navies, published today.

Captain John Moore, in a wide-ranging attack on the policies imposed on the Navy in recent years says that the 1981 Defence Review conducted by Sir John Nott showed "a lamentable failure to appreciate the role of seapower in affairs of state". He accused the Government of "the emasculating of the Royal Navy's ships and support".

Among the specific points made by Captain Moore in the forward to the 1983-84 edition are:

- (1) The effectiveness of the nuclear-powered submarine force may be inhibited in the future by lack of numbers and by limited refuelling capacity.
- (2) The design of the planned new diesel-powered submarine, the 2400, "lags behind those of other European builders".
- (3) There is a lack of airborne early warning based on board ships "although ingenuity in the use of a helicopter with long-range radar may help".
- (4) There are insufficient "flat-decks" which can provide Harrier aircraft with effective take-off.
- (5) The continuance of orders for large frigates may be necessary, but is an expensive approach and may mean that the numbers needed may never be achieved. He notes that the Type 23 frigate costs £135m, and the planned new, "cheap", Type 23 will be between £110m and £120m. He adds "perhaps the adoption of new designs which could provide very nearly two ships for the price of one may one day come to pass".
- (6) Perhaps the largest gap in British defence lies in the same area as that of the United States, namely the capacity to deal with mines laid at sea. "It still remains unlikely that more than two major ports could be kept open during a determined mining campaign."

Captain Moore elaborated on some of these criticisms to *The Times*. He said that the reduction in the planned number of nuclear-powered fleet submarines from 20 to 17 would probably mean that in time of war only about seven could be maintained on station for a protracted period.

He did not think Britain could afford more aircraft carriers, but there were designs available for adapting basic hulls, such as tankers and container ships, to provide platforms for Harrier aircraft.

Jane's Fighting Ships, 1983-84, (Jane's Publishing Company, £55).

Report, page 17

Victory '83 fits wings to its keel

By Barry Pickthall

Peter de Savary, the multi-millionaire heading the Victory syndicate, Britain's challenge for the America's Cup, joined the controversy surrounding the radical winged keel on Australia II by having wings fitted to his own 12-metre yesterday for the final race against the Australian yacht in the semi-final challenge series.

The design of the wings is the result of tests by designer Ian Howlett at Southampton in January last year before being evaluated on Australia, the Victory trial horse bought after the last cup series. A spokesman said that the fins, which improve the lift generated by the foil and thus the angle that the yacht can sail to the wind, had made a dramatic difference to the performance of Australia.

The decision now to add similar wings to Victory '83 brought an immediate response from the United States Yacht Racing Union (USYRU), warning that the yacht may not now be a legal 12-metre. An hour earlier measurer Mark Vinbury, the American member of the three-man international measurement committee, had been called to the Victory dock to give a confidential ruling on the modifications.

Before leaving, he agreed that the fixed fins, which have no effect on the yacht's displacement, were indeed legal. However, shortly afterwards Peter de Savary received a letter from the American measurer saying that he was of the opinion that these wings "mark a peculiarity" and felt obliged to inform the USYRU.

Mr Block: More than a simple ceremonial visit to Moscow

American diplomats said they had not yet received any indication whether President Andropov would receive Mr Block. Last week, the Soviet leader met the deputy head of States to defect.

Moscow grain deal may herald thaw

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Mr John Block, the US Agriculture Secretary, arrives in Moscow tomorrow amid growing signs that the Andropov leadership is seeking ways of taking some of the chill out of its relationship with Washington.

Mr Block is to sign a new Soviet-American grain agreement on Thursday and leaves on Friday. Although this allows little time for substantial talks, diplomatic sources said Mr Block's visit would be more than ceremonial. He is the most senior Reagan Administration official to hold talks here since Mr George Bush, the Vice-President, briefly met Mr Andropov at the Brezhnev funeral last November.

Diplomats said an easing of Soviet-American tensions would principally depend on progress in arms control talks, but that the grain agreement was a significant step forward. Under the agreement, reached last month after three tough bargaining sessions in Moscow and Vienna, the Soviet Union is committed to buying nine million tonnes of American grain annually.

At a press conference yesterday, Senator Edward Zorinsky of Nebraska said he had been told by Soviet trade officials that Moscow was wary of further commitments because of the 1979 grain embargo, imposed by President Carter after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Pass said yesterday that the Reagan Administration's decision to lift its ban on the export of pipeline equipment to Russia showed that Western sanctions and trade embargoes had been a "shameful failure."

Diplomats said an Andropov-Reagan summit remained "a remote possibility" in view of the current chill. Pravda complained on Sunday that the American authorities had acted with "utter lawlessness" and "impudent provocation" in trying to persuade the son of a Soviet diplomat in the United States to defect.

Continued on back page, col 4

Chad 'will ask France to fight'

Ndjamena (Reuters) - The Chad Government said yesterday it would ask French troops to fight in a counter-offensive against Libyan-backed rebels controlling the north of the country.

"When the day comes that we are ready to stage a counter-attack on Faya-Largeau, we will ask France to join us", the Information Minister, Mr Mahamane Soumaila, told reporters.

Brigadier General Jean Poli was due here later in the day to take command of the French ground forces which informed sources said numbered about 1,200 men and eight combat aircraft. He will bring with him about 80 special air commandos to guard the airport.

Forces on alert, page 4

Health service told to cut more jobs

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Health authorities were told yesterday that they were not doing enough to reduce staff in the health service. In a circular issued by the Department of Health and Social Security, they were instructed not to fill any vacancies unless they could produce a clear case for keeping the job.

The department denied yesterday that the new instruction amounted to a freeze on health service jobs, but said it reflected ministers' hopes that new manpower targets could be achieved, mainly through natural wastage.

The circular sets out officially for the first time the new cash limits for this year after the spending cuts announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in July, and the proportion by which health authorities are expected to reduce staff by the end of the financial year.

The circular did not confirm whether the new cash limits will be confined to the present year, or whether they will recur next year.

Nor did it throw any light on how far meeting the manpower

targets would be allowed to offset the cash cuts. It said the first obligation on authorities was to comply with the cash limits.

"To that end, they should review all their expenditure. There must be a renewed drive, with the help of all health service professions, to achieve economies and to reduce costs, particularly in the case of essential expenditure on goods and services, and there needs to be better control of NHS manpower."

Progress on manpower targets had fallen short of what was desired and expected, the circular said. Ministers believed that manpower in the health service needed to be controlled as a matter of urgency.

Within the overall targets of reductions of between 0.75 per cent and 1 per cent, posts for staff other than doctors, dentists, nurses and midwives, and professional and technical workers, were expected to fall by between 1.35 and 1.8 per cent.

Continued on back page, col 4

Walesa calls off speech to Gdansk workers

Gdansk (AP) - Several hundred pro-Solidarity demonstrators held a rally outside the Gdansk shipyard yesterday, despite the last-minute cancellation by Mr Lech Walesa of a speech to the workers there, scheduled a week ago.

"I cancelled everything, because I knew that if I did not, I would be in jail for at least a month from today," Mr Walesa told reporters as he left the shipyard after work.

He did not attend the peaceful gathering at the worker's monument outside the shipyard, where for 30 minutes union supporters sang Solidarity songs and made the V for victory sign.

A "Secret Committee" inside the shipyard has called for a work slow-down to pressure authorities into opening talks with Mr Walesa on reviving independent Labour unions in Poland.

Goldsmith sued by Der Spiegel

By John Witherow

Sir James Goldsmith is facing a High Court action for alleged libel from a West German magazine for comments he made two and a half years ago.

Sir James claimed *Der Spiegel* had conducted a campaign against the Prime Minister of Bavaria, Herr Franz Josef Strauss, which was orchestrated by the KGB, the Soviet secret police.

The allegation was made before the Conservative Party media committee and published in Sir James's now defunct *Now* magazine.

"We have not done this before in England," a spokesman for *Der Spiegel* said. "But the publisher, Herr Rudolf Angsten, and the staff, who own half the magazine, felt extremely strongly about it. We have not been orchestrated by anybody, least of all the KGB."



Sir James: Allegation published in his own magazine

Sir James has waged what has amounted to a crusade against the so-called subversion of the Western media by the Soviet Union or its allies and has maintained that the Communist bloc spends billions of dollars on propaganda.

In his efforts to prove this, he announced in 1981 in a letter to *The Times* that he was offering a £50,000 for investigative journalism on infiltration.

At the weekend the Press Council criticized *The Observer* for embarrassing Sir James by innuendo, but deplored the way in which Sir James had handled the complaint.

Sir James replied that the council, in common with other British institutions, had been "penetrated" by people opposed to freedom and democracy, and as a result had lost its credibility.

LAST CHANCE?
FOR GUARANTEED
DOUBLE FIGURE
TAX PAID INCOME

UP TO 13.41% NET PA

With a long term trend toward lower world interest rates, investments guaranteeing double figure returns after tax could be difficult if not impossible to find in the foreseeable future. This is what our Protected Income Plan can offer -

Guaranteed income, fixed at the start of the plan.

Income of up to 13.41% net. Equivalent to 19.16% gross p.a.

Income payable monthly, quarterly, six monthly, or annually.

In conjunction with a top U.K. Life Assurance Company and a leading Merchant Bank.

Income unaffected by investment performance or movement in interest rates and completely protected.

Plan beneficial to Higher Rate Taxpayers; a rate of up to 10.1% p.a. net of 75% tax.

If you have a lump sum to invest and are interested in having more information, please ring us, or fill in the coupon below.

LAMONT & PARTNERS LIMITED

48 Charles Street, Berkeley Square, London W1X 7PB Telephone: 01-429 4509

Name _____

Address _____

Tel. _____

Registered Office: 10 Bedford Square, London WC2 Registered in England No 259254

Councillors group attacks Steel over his management of party

By Stephen Goodwin

The Association of Liberal Councillors yesterday criticised the way in which Mr David Steel managed the party in the run-up to the general election in June.

In particular it cites the drawing up of the Social Democratic Party-Liberal Alliance manifesto and choosing Roy Jenkins as Prime Minister-designate.

The attack comes at a sensitive time for the Liberal leader. Last week *The Times* reported that Mr Steel was expected to resign the leadership if next month's assembly at Harrogate takes away his right of veto over the election manifesto.

In a strongly worded submission prepared for the assembly the associations also accuse the liberal leadership of a lack of commitment to the strategy laid down by earlier assemblies.

"Many campaigning local Liberals have felt a clear difference between their own work and that of the national party during the past 13 years," the association says.

The association, with more than 2,000 members, claims Liberal successes at seats such as Yeovil, Gordon, Leeds West, and Southwark, Bermondsey are the result of the same

"campaigning approach" which has earned the party a substantial power base in cities and metropolitan areas.

Mr Trevor Jones, of Dorchester, the association chairman, says: "There is a real danger that the Liberal Party will spend too much time on internal navel-gazing and nipping of its constitution."

He wants the assembly to come out with a renewed commitment to the creation of a campaigning party.

"It is time for the national institutions of the party, and its leaders both inside and outside Parliament, to understand that it is their job to provide the campaigning leadership and commitment which is needed," Mr Jones says.

In a rebuttal for Mr Steel, the association expresses dissatisfaction about the Alliance which, it says, cannot continue in its present form.

"We are unhappy about the failure to put forward a clear programme of radical reform at the election. But the concern is with the effect of the Alliance on the mechanics of decision-making, and the presentation, as well as with the content," the association says.

"The way in which the joint programme and Prime Minister designate were determined was profoundly undemocratic. The

way in which the Alliance has operated on the ground has resulted in a lot of wasted time and energies, and in some cases reduced our effectiveness and public impact."

"We must not approach another general election with similar mistakes or with another arbitrary seats allocation process."

The association maintains that the continued existence of two separate Alliance parties cannot be sustained in the long run. It calls for a democratisation of the structures of the Alliance at a national level and encouragement of integration at a local level.

The association intends to ask its own members to support a programme that will promote joint Liberal/SDP council groups and allow associate membership of the association for SDP members. It also supports the principle of joint selection of candidates for European Parliament elections.

The document adds that it is important that moves towards what it describes as an "organic merger" should be optional. "Integration should be encouraged where Liberals and Social Democrats want it."

Mr Steel's high standing with the electorate is the subject of an indirect warning by the association.

TUC affiliation fees to increase by 26%

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The TUC is increasing its affiliation fees by 26 per cent in order to make up a deficit of £300,000 this year and mounting financial problems thereafter. Delegates to next month's Trades Union Congress in Blackpool will be asked to approve a two-stage rise in per capita payments from the existing level of 47.5p to 60p a year. Even this will mean a reduction in the labour movement's reserves.

Details of the TUC's financial position were published for the first time yesterday, and they disclose a gloomy picture of falling membership, rising expenditure and a tight squeeze on services to members.

The TUC general council's report to Congress states that if membership affiliation fees do not rise, there would be a net deficit this year of £300,000, bringing the movement's administration fund down to about £800,000.

Expenditure in 1983 is expected to be £5,150,000, a record, as the trade union centre spends more on its organisation in the regions and implements projects under its development programme. In an effort to contain costs, the TUC is

examining the contribution that micro-technology can offer.

The general council is proposing that per capita affiliation fees should rise by 7 1/2p from January 1, 1984 and by a further 5p from January 1985. But the new subscription of 60p a head - 50 per cent up from January 1982 - is still not enough to halt the slide.

If the objective was to restore TUC funds to the level of last year, then it would be necessary to impose an increase of twice the proposed level next January, the report adds. This was rejected "to avoid undue financial pressure on the unions".

As it stands, the financial package will provide the TUC with an estimated extra income of £750,000 next year, leaving reserves of £400,000 at the end of 1984 and avoiding the prospect of a 1985 deficit.

The report also discloses that membership has fallen so fast that the TUC was obliged to repay to unions £285,000 "overpaid" in the wake of over-optimistic affiliation levels in 1981 and expects to make further repayments of the same kind when the 1982 affiliation figures are corrected.

Conviction for 'wrong man' threat

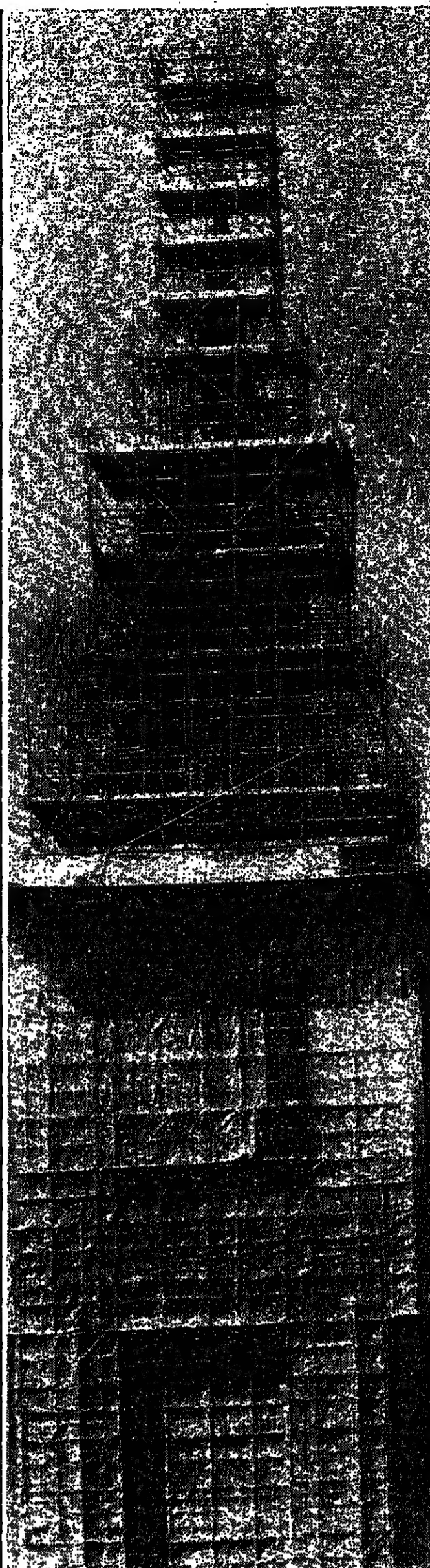
James Burns spent months building up dossiers on the family of the man he believed was his wife's lover, Wood Green Crown Court in north London was told yesterday.

He then harassed the family with hundreds of telephone calls and threatened to murder the man, Mr Michael O'Connor, aged 29. But Burns, father of five, had chosen the wrong man, Mr Charles Byers, for the prosecution, told the court.

It was a friend of Mr O'Connor who was having an affair with Burns's wife. Mr Byers said the dossier compiled by Burns even included copies of birth certificates relating to the O'Connor family.

Burns, aged 55, unemployed, of Percy Road, Isleworth, west London, received an eight-month prison sentence suspended for two years after jury found him guilty of three charges of making threats to murder. The Recorder, Lord Elystan-Morgan, said Burns had conducted a "well planned and carefully executed campaign to wage fear and terror" against the O'Connor family, of Tottenham, north London.

But the judge accepted that Burns had been distraught when his wife walked out on him



Under wraps: The 320ft clock tower at the Palace of Westminster, which houses Big Ben, is taking on the appearance of a giant Meccano kit as renovation work continues inside a cobweb of scaffolding and sheeting. One of the clock faces is virtually obliterated. The work is the most visible stage of a six-year programme of restoration on the Victorian buildings. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

TUC chiefs approve launch of newspaper

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Trade union leaders decided yesterday by a one-vote margin to go ahead with plans to raise £6.7m to launch a new daily newspaper of the left.

The TUC's "inner cabinet", the finance and general purposes committee, voted by 6 to 5 in favour of setting up a top-level committee of union leaders charged with the daunting task of finding the launch capital to challenge the current range of Fleet Street titles with a successor to the long-defunct *Daily Herald*.

The full TUC general council will be recommended tomorrow to put the plan to next month's Trades Union Congress in Blackpool.

The split yesterday was on familiar political lines, with left-wingers predominating in the majority wishing to start up a new paper to reflect the values of the trade union movement. Moderate union leaders argued that with membership falling and costs rising, they could not afford to invest heavily in such an initiative.

A £28,000 TUC feasibility study carried out by the opposition peer Lord McCarthy has suggested that the labour daily could make a profit if it was contracted printed outside Fleet Street and had a minimum of journalists. With a circulation of more than 300,000, it could break even.

If next month's Congress approves the fund-raising scheme, union leaders will be asking more than 100 TUC affiliates for cash to get the paper on to the streets for two years. Capital might come from union funds or from loans guaranteed by the unions' still-considerable revenue from subscriptions.

Children in care get grant to fight cases

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Thousands of young people who are living in care will be encouraged to set up local groups to fight for better conditions in children's homes as a result of a government grant of £100,000 over the next three years.

The grant is being paid by the Department of Health and Social Security to the National Association of Young People in Care after meetings in which the organization was questioned about its future.

The money will allow the association to employ three permanent staff all of whom will be young people who have lived "in care" and to open offices in London and Bradford. The organization has given evidence to the Commons Select Committee on Social Services Inquiry into children in care. It regards the grant as official recognition of its value as an outlet for young people who feel inhibited from complaining through child care and social work channels.

Mr Leon Parker, aged 24, the full-time development officer of the association, said yesterday that the priorities would be to expand the number of local

groups of young people in care and to get the organization's quarterly newsletter into community homes.

About 15 local groups meet regularly to discuss issues such as the involvement of young people in care in the statutory six-monthly reviews on their future, complaints about the regime in children's homes, arrangements for when they leave care, and their access to files about them. Of the 230 members of the association, a study carried out for the association by Mr Michael Stein, lecturer in applied social studies at Leeds University, and Mr Shane Ellis, Bradford development officer of the organization, found that for most children in care reviews are a lottery.

Few are allowed to attend the entire review hearing. Those who do find themselves faced with adults they have never met who discuss their future in incomprehensible language.

Mr Parker said that once children in care reached the age of 12 or 13 they should have the right to attend their own review hearings, accompanied by another young person if they wished.

Warning of revolt over plan to cut benefits

A former Conservative minister gave a warning yesterday of a possible backbench revolt against Treasury proposals to save £100m by cutting housing and rental allowances paid to unemployed teenagers (Anthony Bevis writes).

Mr James Lester, MP for Broxtowe, said on the BBC radio *Jimmy Young Programme* that he had found no lack of incentive on the part of young people to find work. He said: "I personally have not felt that incentive effect is needed in the majority of children." He added that the plan could therefore harm the

majority for the final of a tiny minority.

Mr Lester, a former Under-Secretary for Employment, was asked whether he thought there could be a Commons revolt if ministers pushed ahead with the proposal.

He said: "Yes, I would have thought that there is a great deal of feeling in the Conservative Party, on the backbenches and indeed among ministers, that you cannot take it out on the unemployed and you cannot take it out on the most vulnerable people in our society."

Soldier kept secret papers in caravan

Warrant Officer Euan Dear, who took home 74 classified documents and stored them in a caravan, pleaded guilty to two charges under the Official Secrets Act yesterday.

Ten of the documents were secret, 23 confidential, and the rest restricted. Lieutenant-Colonel John Mitchell, for the prosecution, told a court martial at Bulford Camp, Wiltshire.

The papers related to Warrant Officer Dear's work as acting chief clerk of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers at the Army Air Centre, Middle Wallop, Hampshire. Warrant Officer Dear, aged 41, who had served in Borneo, Malaysia and Yemen took them back to his married quarters in Andover, Hampshire, before he went on leave, Lieutenant-Colonel Mitchell said.

"It is accepted there was no malice on the part of the accused. He took home these documents to cover up his own

inefficiency - it was an attempt to catch up in his own time."

Warrant Officer Dear admitted retaining 16 documents at Andover between October 4 and 12 last year, and a further 58 documents at Andover on October 15. He also admitted stealing army rail warrants on four occasions, forging a claim for allowances and dishonestly obtaining £294 by false claims for mileage allowances.

Mr Andrew Kirkcubright, for the defence, said that Warrant Officer Dear was an exemplary soldier until he was posted to Middle Wallop, where he found his section was seriously undermanned. His marriage had also run into trouble and he was drinking excessively.

He was sentenced to be dismissed from the service, imprisoned for six months, and reduced to the ranks. Findings and sentence are subject to confirmation.

Anglo-US steel link plan 'dead'

Mr Ian MacGregor's plan to export semi-finished steel from Ravenscraig plant in Motherwell to the Fairless works in Pennsylvania is dead, a Scottish Labour MP said yesterday.

Dr Jeremy Bray, MP for Motherwell, South, also called on Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, to consult US Government officials in an attempt to terminate the British Steel Corporation chairman's scheme.

Two weeks ago Mr MacGregor said his plan was all but ready.

Dr Bray said the plan was the "hottest talking point in US industry" and he was putting pressure on the Government to introduce measures protecting the industry against imports.

He said: "I firmly believe the deal is dead, but it is time for the British Government to step in to prevent further damage being done by continuing talks."

Union leaders at Ravenscraig and Fairless fear the deal would mean the loss of about 2,000 jobs in each plant.

Dr Bray said US Steel, which owns Fairless, is already cooperating with the unions to consider alternative futures for the Pennsylvania works.

Some of the 2,000 workers dismissed by Highland Fabricators last week have been invited to reapply for their jobs at the company's oil platform yard at Nigg on the Moray Firth.

Overseas selling prices for steel are falling sharply. In the US, for example, the price of a ton of steel fell from \$1,000 to \$800 in the last few weeks. In the UK, the price of a ton of steel fell from £1,000 to £800 in the last few weeks. In the EU, the price of a ton of steel fell from £1,000 to £800 in the last few weeks. In the rest of the world, the price of a ton of steel fell from £1,000 to £800 in the last few weeks.

Greenham Common women's visit to Russia seeks to 'end paranoia'

By Nicholas Timmins

Thirty women, including founders of the Greenham Common peace camp, are to visit Moscow next month for a 17-day visit to the Soviet Union.

More than £12,000 has been raised by Women for Life on Earth to make the trip possible and Mrs Karen Cutler, one of the organizers, said yesterday that they had now received confirmation from the official Soviet peace and women's committees that they were expected.

The visit comes after a trip to

Moscow in May by Mrs Cutler and Mrs Ann Pettit, two of the organizers of the original march to Greenham Common. When they met official and unofficial peace groups in Moscow and arranged the second larger visit.

Mrs Cutler said the women would divide into four groups and visit various parts of the Soviet Union, including parts of Georgia and Lithuania, as well as Leningrad.

Visits had been arranged, through the Soviet women's committee, to hospitals and training colleges. However,

plenty of time had been left to allow the women to meet whomever they liked, Mrs Cutler added.

The aim of the visit, she said, was "human contact", to try to overcome the paranoia on both sides "and that starts with personal contact". "There are all these fears on both sides. In this country there is fear of the Russians and Soviet society and they see us as the aggressive countries of Nato. We want to start at the bottom and get rid of some of these fears by talking."

Health service and the cuts: 2

Managers refuse to suggest victims

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

The seven people who manage hospital services in the Bristol and Weston district health authority have declined to come up with any suggestions as to how they can meet their share of the £788,000 cash cut imposed in the Chancellor's spending cuts announced in July.

To meet cuts of that order, on top of the efficiency savings already imposed, would mean cutting major services, the unit managers say. If that is the case, it is up to the district health authority (DHA) to decide as a matter of policy which major services they want to go.

The district management team met abortively on Wednesday to try to identify where major services could be cut. Mr Vincent Harrall, the district administrator, says that the fact has already been cut and now they are being asked to cut into the bone.

"It is like trying to walk up an escalator that is going down," he said. "People used to be proud to work in the health service. Now they feel embattled and wonder where the next cut is coming."

Before the July cuts, and before the manpower targets for this year were communicated at the end of the month, the district had already cut jobs by 114, reduced working hours and closed several wards.

Three wards are closed at the Winsford orthopaedic hospital, which serves the whole of Avon county; one ward at the

Children's Hospital, 40 per cent of whose patients come from outside the district's boundaries. Another four wards have been closed at the Royal Infirmary, three of them surgical.

Local people are still bitter that the Wendover Maternity Hospital has closed. Mothers now have to travel up to 15 miles to the Bristol Maternity Hospital to have their babies in the high-tech atmosphere common to many modern hospitals. As an economy measure, they are now required to take with them nappies and sheets for their babies.

The district has managed to raise extra cash by taking over from a private contractor the laundry service for neighbouring Southmead district, and by agreeing to train nurses from a private hospital near by in cardiac surgery.

But it still has to make cuts of about £1.3m this year and lose another 90 jobs, although another 150 nurses are needed. Mr Roy Bennett, the district nursing officer, said in his 1982 report that it would be naive to assume that the nursing service had managed to maintain a safe level of patient care. The nursing service was £3.3m underfunded; Mr Bennett was given £600,000 more to employ some of the nurses still needed.

He now says that patient care is at a safe level only because of the goodwill of nurses, who are working extra hours without being paid overtime.

Local GPs are already noticing the effect. Dr Peter Featherstone, who works in a health centre serving the deprived areas of St Paul's and Montpelier, says the hospitals are now discharging patients with only a day's supply of drugs. They used to supply enough for two weeks.

Dr Featherstone's health centre has also experienced a doubling from 6,000 to 12,000 patients seen at its treatment rooms, where minor operations and casualty work can be done. At the same time, there has been a sharp fall in the patients seen at the casualty department of the Royal Infirmary.

Those are just some of the ways in which cuts in health service budgets increase costs in the family practitioner services. The Bristol and Weston district management team (DMT) is not alone in accusing the Department of Health and Social Security of failing to take account of the interdependence of the various parts of its empire.

Mr Douglas Cook, branch secretary for the National and Local Government Officers' Association, put the point directly to Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, when the TUC health services committee met him last month.

Mr Cook asked how the department's economic problem would be solved by seeking more health service workers, who would then claim social

security. He says Mr Fowler had no answer.

Dr David Burman, consultant paediatrician at the Bristol Children's Hospital and a member of the DMT, says the short-sighted nature of present DHSS policy goes further. The department is encouraging greater efficiency in bed use, which means faster discharges of patients and closing wards at weekends.

But the most expensive time a patient is in hospital is during the first few days, so admitting more patients and discharging them sooner adds to costs.

Nevertheless, the DMT expects to be able to meet its revised cash limits by rejigging capital programmes, penalising departments that were over-spent last year, and by bringing forward its manpower targets to January 1 instead of April 1 next year.

It is expected to lead to cuts in patient care, which is why the unit managers have abdicated direct responsibility to the health authority.

Mr Paul Barker, whose unit includes the Royal Infirmary, the eye hospital, the radiotherapy centre, and the Dental Hospital, says the cuts are irrational and remove the ability of managers to make decisions.

Changes in policy must, he says, be made by the DHA in public, so that the damage being done to the health service can be clearly explained.

Concluded

Record number of Scouts to go abroad to help Third World

By David Nicholson-Land

A record number of Scouts are expected to take part in overseas activities ranging from expeditions and outdoor sports to community work in developing countries this year, according to the Scout Association.

More than 16,000 members, including an increasing number of girls, will have gone abroad by the end of September. Many of these will be in the 16 to 20 age range of the Venture Scouts, the fastest growing area of Scout membership.

In contrast with the recent decline of scouting membership in Britain, Venture Scouting has increased from a membership of 30,000 in 1979 to more than 36,000 this year. It is the only area of scouting where girls are allowed: they now make up

about 20 per cent of overall numbers.

The record numbers of all age groups going abroad is put down by the association partly to lack of challenge in Britain. "Places to camp in this country that can offer the right sort of challenge are becoming less available," Mr Jack Olden, an association official, said yesterday.

Venture scouting was popular because it was organized on democratic and cooperative lines, with maximum participation in planning projects.

Parties of Venture Scouts, including a group from Berkshire, will next year be travelling to villages in Kenya and Sri Lanka to install piped water supplies as part of the United Nations' "water decade" campaign. A group from Rotherham, South Yorkshire, last year piped water two miles to Balam, a village in the Himalayas, foothills of Nepal, after raising £30,000.

Another group, from Ilford, Essex, built an adventure playground for handicapped children at a Salvation Army centre in Begova, eastern Ghana.

Those returning from expeditions overseas, Mr Olden added, displayed a radical change in attitude. "They appreciate their home and their parents more. They appreciate all those facilities in their own home they have always taken for granted."

Telecom chief attacks union critics

Sir George Jefferson, British Telecom chairman, has attacked opponents in the corporation to the Government's privatization policy. (Bill Johnston writes). The unexpected attack is contained in a special edition of the corporation's staff newspaper, *Telecom Today*.

No union is mentioned but the unions representing most of the 240,000 employees of British Telecom oppose the Government's plans to privatize half of the corporation and to encourage private sector competition.

Sir George says: "This is undoubtedly the way to destroy jobs, not protect them as the militants claim."

The BT Office Engineering Union has refused to connect Mercury to a public telephone network and are now engaged in industrial action against the partners of Mercury - Cable & Wireless, Barclays Merchant Bank and British Petroleum.

The incentives will astound you

NAME _____
POSTION _____
COMPANY _____
ADDRESS _____
TEL NO. _____
TYPE OF BUSINESS _____
CASH GRANTS, CHEAP LOANS, RENT FREE FACTORIES, TRAINING AND RELOCATION ASSISTANCE, NEW FACTORIES, RENTALS FROM £1.10 PER SQUARE FOOT, ARE JUST SOME OF THE INCENTIVES AVAILABLE TO BUSINESSES SETTING UP IN MID GLAMORGAN. PHONE 0222-28033 EXT. 149 OR RETURN THIS COUPON TO THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT UNIT, MID GLAMORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL, GREYFRIARS ROAD, CARDIFF, CF1 3LG. AND THEY'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT THE INCENTIVES.

مركز الامن الاسلامي

Sexual harassment causes physical and mental illness, TUC report says

By Amanda Haigh

Sexual harassment at work is causing women physical and mental illness, lost promotion, forcing them to leave their jobs, and even resulting in their dismissal, according to a TUC guide published today.

The guide, *Sexual Harassment at Work*, says that the stress caused by sexual harassment has been linked to depression and physical illness such as cystitis, headaches, digestive problems, nausea, general physical disability, and lack of resistance to infection.

It urges unions to take issue seriously and join in a campaign to combat it. Many trade unionists had not yet recognized sexual harassment as a serious problem and still regarded it as a "fuss about nothing", the guide says.

Mrs Anne Gibson, secretary of the TUC's women's advisory committee, which compiled the guide as a result of a TUC's women's conference mandate, said: "This problem is much more widespread than anybody had thought".

"Individual cases include: a journalist who dreaded going in for the evening shift because of constant unwanted touching and being stopped and trapped

in the locker area; young women who had to drop out of an apprenticeship scheme for electricians because of the constant touching, ribbing, innuendoes, and sex talk among the men; and office workers whose bosses suggest they might like to stay behind after work or spend a weekend with them."

No precise figures were available, but the harassment of women occurred across the whole spectrum of employment, in both blue and white-collar jobs, she said.

The guide includes the kind of behaviour that must not be tolerated in future: leering, ridicule, embarrassing remarks or jokes, unwelcome comments about dress or appearance, deliberate abuse, the offensive use of pin-ups, pornographic pictures, repeated unwanted physical contact, demands for sexual favours, and physical assaults on workers. Unions would not support members sexually harassing other workers.

The TUC recommends that unions should include a clause in agreements negotiated with employers that would treat sexual harassment as a form of discrimination and would set up speedy and confidential

grievance procedures for the victims of such behaviour. Although the victims of sexual harassment are usually women, the guide emphasizes that it is also applicable to men.

The employers' organization, the CBI, said it would not comment on the proposals before seeing the guide.

The guide calls on individual male trade unionists to examine their behaviour towards female colleagues and make sure that any actions that they may regard as "near the knuckle" but "only good clean fun" do not constitute sexual harassment.

Victims are asked to keep notes of each incident and inform union representatives immediately. The harasser should be warned that legal action could be taken against him.

The guide adds: "Too often women workers are seen in terms of their family caring roles, and not as workers attempting to earn their living."

Sexual Harassment at Work (Publications Dept, TUC, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LS, 15p).



Sophie Birdwood (left), the victim of mistaken identity, and Miss Carolyn Herbert, who was at Balmoral.



Mix-up leaves press little to coo about

By David Hewson

The name of Prince Andrew's latest girlfriend - if, indeed he has one - remained a secret last night after a classic West Street case of mistaken identity.

The prince, who is reported to have ended his friendship with Miss Koo Stark, the American actress, spent the weekend at Balmoral with Miss Sophie Birdwood, according to a pack of national

tabloids, led by the *Daily Mirror*, yesterday.

That was news to Miss Birdwood, aged 19, last year's Deb of the Year and daughter of Lord Birdwood - and with good reason. At the time when she was supposed to be spending her time with the third-in-line to the throne, she was in fact, on holiday.

Miss Birdwood's return to Britain yesterday somewhat puzzled to find herself in the

midst of such fuss, provided a double alibi. Not only was it obvious she was out of the country, but she also was clearly not the person whose photograph appeared in newspapers above her name.

"I am not amused", Miss Birdwood told journalists at Heathrow airport.

While the strength of such denials may have her halfway down the Isle of St Paul's in the eyes of the foreign press,

things were stirring back home. The subject of the photograph identified as initially as Miss Birdwood was now categorically confirmed as Miss Carolyn Herbert, aged 21, the only daughter of Lord Forrester, the Queen's racing manager.

Was she the Prince's new girlfriend? Not according to Buckingham Palace, which merely said that Miss Herbert was Prince Andrew's guest.

The police are now checking on the owners of the 92 cars that took the next available Newhaven-Dieppe ferry a few hours after the boy was attacked. They have asked for the help of French and German police.

A brown car or a dark car is the most consistent element of all the likely sightings of the men that were thrown up in the massive police operation on Sunday night in the Brighton area when hundreds of motorists were questioned.

The police have confirmed that their inquiries have been hampered by difficulties communicating with the boy, who has a speech impediment.

WPC Terry Micklam, who has been trained to deal with child abuse cases and who is befriending the boy, said: "His state of shock is decreasing now. He is quite a happy little boy, but there are times when he is unhappy and thinks about what happened. He does talk a bit more about what has happened."

Police are also looking for a man seen talking to the boy earlier in the evening of the attack. He is described as between 50 or 60, of slim build, 5ft 9in tall, with grey hair. He was wearing an open neck shirt and check trousers.

Sex attack hunt centres on brown German car

The hunt for three men who sexually attacked a boy aged six after abducting him from a street near his home in Brighton centred yesterday on a large brown left-hand drive car with German number plates.

A woman noticed the car, which had black numbers on a white plate, when it bounced off a kerb near the spot where the boy was abducted. She told the police that it was driven by a big man with dark hair with a fair-haired front seat passenger; she is not sure whether this person was a man or a woman. In the back was a teenage boy, about 15 years old, and a little boy she recalls as having fair hair.

The descriptions tally with those of three men seen in a newsagent's shop used by the victim and his twin brother earlier on the evening of the attack.

Police are now checking on the owners of the 92 cars that took the next available Newhaven-Dieppe ferry a few hours after the boy was attacked. They have asked for the help of French and German police.

A brown car or a dark car is the most consistent element of all the likely sightings of the men that were thrown up in the massive police operation on Sunday night in the Brighton area when hundreds of motorists were questioned.

The police have confirmed that their inquiries have been hampered by difficulties communicating with the boy, who has a speech impediment.

WPC Terry Micklam, who has been trained to deal with child abuse cases and who is befriending the boy, said: "His state of shock is decreasing now. He is quite a happy little boy, but there are times when he is unhappy and thinks about what happened. He does talk a bit more about what has happened."

Police are also looking for a man seen talking to the boy earlier in the evening of the attack. He is described as between 50 or 60, of slim build, 5ft 9in tall, with grey hair. He was wearing an open neck shirt and check trousers.

Theatre buyer

Andrew Lloyd Webber, the composer, is expected to announce today that he is buying the Palace Theatre in Cambridge Circus, which is valued at up to £2m.

Young prefer building societies

By Lorna Bourke

A survey has revealed that more than half of all teenagers over 16 have building society accounts, even though most are non-taxpayers.

Tax on building society interest is deducted at source and is not reclaimable by non-taxpayers - yet 34 per cent of all children invest in a building society and in the 16 to 19 age group the proportion is 52 per cent.

Nearly 20 per cent of all building society investors are under 25, though they account for only 4 per cent of investments held in societies. The figure is 17 per cent for children aged 10 to 15.

National Savings Bank, probably the most suitable investment for a child, does little better. Only 13 per cent of under-fives have an account,

the figure rising to 21 per cent at ages 10 to 15.

The survey was conducted by the British Market Research Bureau on behalf of the Building Societies' Association. It also reveals wide regional differences in saving patterns - 75 per cent of adults in the South-East hold building society investment accounts, while only half the adults in Scotland save with a society.

Overall 57 per cent of adults have a building society account but only 32 per cent save with high street banks - though six out of 10 adults run a bank current account.

Savers in the South-East appear to be more sophisticated and make most use of financial institutions generally. Nearly 20 per cent of adults in this area also have National Savings Bank accounts of some sort, but the figure is less than 7 per cent in the North.

Wales, which has one of the

lowest proportions of building society investors, has the highest incidence of saving with the National Savings Bank - 22 per cent of all adults.

House prices are rising at an annual rate of between 10 and 12 per cent but there is unlikely to be a big price boom, the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors says in its latest survey published today (Baron Phillips writes).

During the three months to the end of July half the estate agents taking part in the survey report rises of between 1 and 5 per cent. But the institution says there are marked regional variations. Many agents say there have been no price increases. In the Midlands, agents report that prices have levelled off following rises earlier this year.

Demand is still running high among first-time buyers for pre-1919 terrace houses.

Wales, which has one of the

White asbestos risk report challenged

By David Nicholson-Lord

A report being considered today by the Health and Safety Commission seriously underestimates the risk of cancer for those exposed to white asbestos, the type still in general use in Britain, it was claimed yesterday.

The report, written by members of the medical Research Council (MRC), include Professor Donald Acheson, shortly to become chief medical officer at the Department of Health and Social Security, calls for a formal ban on new blue and brown asbestos products and the replacement of white asbestos by substitutes.

Its authors said there was an attempt by the Health and Safety Executive, the enforcement arm of the commission, to suppress it when it was published last month.

The MRC report, however, finds little evidence of a link between white asbestos and mesothelioma, a cancer that causes an estimated 400 deaths each year. That finding was challenged yesterday by the Society for the Prevention of Asbestos and Industrial Diseases (Spaid).

According to Spaid which has analysed the research data considered by the MRC, the report bases its conclusions on a sample of only 171 mesothelioma deaths, out of a total of 3,957 cited in official figures for the 1968-81 period.

Spaid also says that the

researchers ignored case-history studies, including one made into 27 mesothelioma patients at Hackney Hospital, north-east London, which appear to indicate that the user of asbestos is more at risk than those working in its manufacture.

Mrs Nancy Tait, secretary of Spaid, said: "This sort of evidence shows that the widespread concern about asbestos in the general environment is justified but the commission is going to say it is not. The report just has not looked at enough evidence to be able to form any conclusion at all."

Professor Acheson said the figure of 171, if accurate, represented deaths where there was good evidence of the type of asbestos exposure. Most did not carry that information on the death certificate.

The debate about the hazards of white asbestos is expected to dominate today's meeting of the commission, which is being viewed as one of the most critical yet on the future use of asbestos by British industry.

Hundreds of families living on a south London council estate are to be moved out after the discovery of asbestos.

More than 320 tenants living on the Livingstone Estate, Battersea, built in 1972, were told yesterday of the decision by Wandsworth Council. The asbestos was found by accident as council housing staff were checking walls.

Extradition granted for accused Germans

An extradition order against two Germans accused of terrorist offences was granted yesterday at Bow Street Magistrates' Court, London. It is subject to confirmation by the Home Secretary.

Walter Kexel, aged 22, a far-right, and Ulrich Tillman, aged 21, a journalist, were said by the prosecution to have belonged to a neo-Nazi group with Soviet sympathies which was responsible for planting bombs under American servicemen's cars in Germany.

The pair were accused jointly of two armed robberies, three attempted murders, two ex-

plosions, conspiracy to cause explosion, and one charge of causing actual bodily harm. Kexel faces three separate charges of armed robbery.

The order was granted on all charges by Mr David Hopkins, the magistrate.

Mr Alan Jones, prosecuting, said Kexel was the leader of the group, which allegedly netted more than £100,000 in armed robberies.

Mr Jones said that four members of the group were arrested in Germany last February and Kexel and Tillman fled to Britain.

Kidney disease children still extremely ill

In the condition of two children suffering from the kidney disease haemolytic uraemic syndrome in a Birmingham hospital was still causing concern yesterday (Arthur Osman writes from Birmingham).

One, a boy aged eight, has been in a coma for nine days. There are three other children still detained but making progress. Eighteen others have suffered the disease during the past five weeks.

Two people in the West Midlands have died from it, a woman aged 59 and a girl aged two, as well as a girl aged nine in Nottingham.

TV-am's Roland Rat gnaws at BBC ratings

By a Staff Reporter

The antics of the puppet character Roland Rat are continuing to narrow the audience gap between the creators TV-am and the rival BBC *Breakfast Time* programme.

"This may be the first time in history that a rat has come to the aid of a sinking ship", a *Breakfast Time* spokesman said yesterday. In fact, TV-am's fortunes, far from sinking, seem to be on the rise, after the station's disastrous early days.

Last week's audience figures show TV-am reaching audiences of more than one million

during the week before 9am for the first time since it came on air. The downward programming investigation since the palace revolution which ousted Peter Jay, Anna Ford, and Angela Rippon has brought in growing numbers of child viewers during the summer holidays, many of them hooked on Roland Rat.

According to a report from the advertising agency Davidson Pearce, housewives have followed their children to the set. The agency estimates that two thirds of TV-am's viewers are women.

Leading article, page 9

Tube killing charge men remanded

Three men from north London accused of murdering Mr Peter Clarke, security guard, at Belsize Park Underground station on Friday were remanded in police custody until Thursday by Highgate magistrates yesterday.

They were: James Browne, aged 22, a street trader, of Herbert Street, Kentish Town, Terence Ellis, aged 45, a taxi driver, of Ewart Grove, Wood Green, and James Killick, aged 18, a delivery man, of Beaumont Walk, Hampstead.

Det Insp William Griffiths, of the Flying Squad, told the court that the defendants were interviewed further.

Mr Clarke, aged 52, who was married, had two children, lived in Marlock Road, Ilford, Essex. He worked for PPR Security, which is based in Ilford.

Marathon field up to 20,000

The number of runners in the London Marathon will be increased from 19,000 to 20,000 next year. Disabled competitors, about whose status there was a dispute with the Greater London Council this year, will start 15 minutes early to prevent bottlenecks.

A computerized system will process applications to avoid queues outside post offices. The race will be on May 13.

Couple killed

Mr Michael Matthews, aged 25, and his wife Sandra, aged 24, from Wembley, north London, who were married on Saturday, died yesterday after being involved in a collision with a lorry near Dover at the start of their honeymoon.

Child sex charge

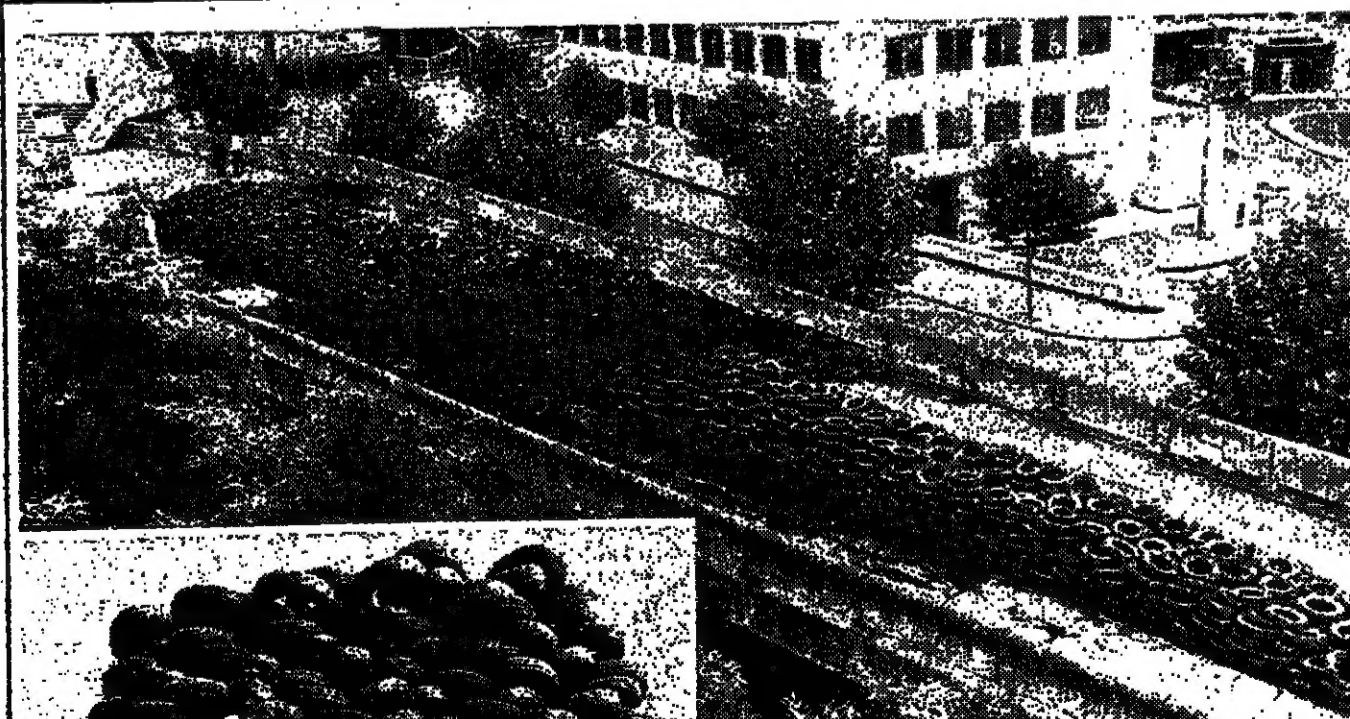
A man aged 35 from Guildford, Surrey, who was charged with having unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl aged seven, was remanded in custody for eight days by Guildford magistrates yesterday.

£160,000 raid

Jewellery valued at more than £160,000, including a £100,000 gold and diamond necklace, was stolen from the home of an Arab in Old Windsor, Berkshire, on Saturday night, it was disclosed yesterday.

PC accused

Police Constable Philip Mason, aged 21, was remanded on bail by Teesside magistrates yesterday accused of indecently assaulting two girls aged 12 and 15 and a woman in Middlesbrough.



The burnt-out sculpture and (left) Mr Mach on his work (Photographs: John Manning (top) and Brian Harris).

Burnt sculpture may be replaced, gallery says

Mr David Mach, sculptor of the submarine that was set alight early yesterday outside the Royal Festival Hall in London, said after inspecting the damage that he hoped the model would be rebuilt (Kenneth Gosling writes).

A spokesman for the Hayward Gallery, which mounted the Sculpture Show in association with the Serpentine Gallery with Arts Council and Greater London Council finance, said it was likely that a decision about rebuilding would be taken today.

Mr Mach said he had been shocked to hear of the 170ft-long Polaris submarine model's being vandalized,

"especially since during the building of the sculpture I had considerable public support".

The condition of a man who suffered severe burns in the fire was said last night to have "deteriorated slightly".

Mr James Gore-Graham, aged 37, a designer, of Collet Gardens, Hammersmith, London, was taken to St Thomas's Hospital and transferred to the burns unit of Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton. He was said to be in a critical condition, suffering 90 per cent burns.

Forensic scientists have been studying the remains of the submarine. Patrol cars are understood to have been found among the 6,000 tyres

There's more than one way to get the Navy to sponsor your degree.

The first way. Join the Royal Navy on the University Cadetship scheme.

Places are now available for young men with the potential to get to the top. If you are accepted you join the Royal Navy up to a year before university and undergo initial Officer training.

You then study for your degree. You receive £4,563 for the first year, £5,110 for the second and on promotion to Sub-Lieutenant, £5,661 for the third. A similar scheme applies to the Royal Marines.

The second way. Apply for a Royal Navy Bursary.

You have to be accepted for at least a Short Career Commission in the Royal Navy, the Royal Marines or the Women's Royal Naval Service. While you are studying for your degree we pay you £900 a year on top of your grant.

You will be expected to get involved in naval activities during your vacations, but you don't join the Navy until after you graduate.

How to apply. To qualify for either scheme you must have a confirmed or provisional place on a UK degree course and you must graduate before your 26th birthday. You must also be a UK resident.

For more information write to Captain S.G. Palmer RN, Officer Entry Section, Dept. 205, Old Admiralty Building, Spring Gardens, London SW1A 2BE.

Or call in at any Royal Navy and Royal Marines Careers Information Office.

US agent jailed in Moscow as Belgium breaks Soviet spy ring

From Richard Owen, Moscow

A Soviet citizen named Ivanov has been imprisoned for spying for the United States. Tass said yesterday, adding that the involvement of American Embassy staff in Moscow had been "incontrovertibly" proved.

Tass did not name the Americans concerned, however, which is apparently a sign that Moscow does not intend to make an issue out of the case.

It gave no details about Ivanov or his alleged espionage, beyond saying that he had acted on instructions from the CIA.

There have been two cases this year in which American diplomats have been named as spies and declared persona non grata, but neither case was given prominence by the Soviet media, which give the impression that the CIA remains endlessly resourceful and remorselessly anti-Soviet, whatever the ups and downs of Soviet-American relations.

BRUSSELS: Belgium has expelled at least six East Europeans for economic espionage and uncovered a Brussels electronics firm serving as a front for Soviet technological spying, a senior Belgian official said yesterday, (Reuters reports).

The official, who spoke on condition that he was not named, said that the discovery of the firm followed the expulsion at the weekend of one Soviet and three Romanian diplomats and an employee of the Romanian Embassy without diplomatic status. At least one Soviet employee of the firm had also been expelled.

Gromyko spells out space weapons proposals

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow

Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, took the Soviet proposal on the banning of space weapons a stage further yesterday by suggesting it should include a ban on the use of manned spacecraft for military purposes. The proposal appeared to be aimed at the American space shuttle, which Moscow claims Washington is planning to equip with space weapons.

Mr Gromyko was elaborating on an initiative put forward by President Andropov in a meeting with visiting American senators in Moscow last Thursday. Mr Andropov imposed a moratorium on the launching of anti-satellite weapons into space.

Pravda published the text of a letter from Mr Gromyko to Señor Xavier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General, outlining a draft Soviet treaty on "the prohibition of the use of force in outer space". Mr Gromyko said Russia was seeking an urgent ban on the "testing, and deployment in outer space of any space-based weapons intended to hit targets on earth" and "complete renunciation by states of the development of new anti-satellite systems".

Under the proposed treaty states would undertake "not to destroy or damage the space objects of other states", and not to test or use "manned spacecraft for military purposes" including anti-satellite aims.

Prisoners of conscience



South Korea: Lee Chul

By Caroline Moorehead

A Korean born in Japan, Lee Chul, is serving a 20-year prison sentence for "anti-state activities" and "espionage". Now aged 35, he was one of 21 students accused of being a part of a "campus spy ring" after the interrogation in late 1975 of most Korean students normally resident in Japan but at that time studying in South Korea.

In April, 1976, Lee Chul was tried for spying for North Korea. The prosecution accused him of travelling to the North to receive training as a spy. After a confession the court sentenced him to death. The sentence was later commuted, first to life imprisonment and then, in 1981, to 20 years.

In 1976, at an appeal hearing, friends and relatives testified that he had been with them in Japan on the dates the prosecution maintained he was in North Korea.

Lee Chul said that he had "confessed" only after being tortured and informed that his family would suffer the same fate. (His wife, arrested with him, had been sentenced to three years in prison).

Lee Chul's appeal was rejected.

Poll win by Maldives leader likely

MALÉ, Maldives (Reuters) - The Maldives yesterday took the first step towards electing a new leader, with the President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom favoured to retain power.

Parliament was voting for a single candidate who must win a majority in a public referendum to be declared president for the next five years.

Under the country's constitution, Parliament's 48 members - 40 elected and eight nominated by the president - may choose anyone in or outside the house. There are no political parties in the Maldives, an Islamic nation of about 160,000 people, and campaigning for the presidency is banned.

Mr Gayoom, elected in 1978, is an Islamic scholar and ends his present term on November 11. A government statement on Sunday gave no indication of when the referendum on Parliament's choice would be held.

Political sources said they expected President Gayoom to win more than the 28 votes he gained in Parliament in 1978, when a 92 per cent referendum vote confirmed him in office.

Since taking power, President Gayoom, who is 46, has made major changes in the economy of the country's 2,000 coral islands, embarking on a programme to develop tourism.

The devout president, who was educated in Egypt, has linked the development with preserving the Maldives' Islamic ideals.

He has stated that he wants to introduce constitutional changes to bring more political freedom to a system where the president rules with near-absolute authority.

Captain gets two years

From Robert Schell, Amsterdam

A court in Arnhem has sentenced the captain of a Dutch ship, the Emmely, to two years imprisonment for ordering a stowaway thrown overboard in October, 1979.

The court found Captain Theodore de Boudt, aged 39, guilty of manslaughter when he ordered a Ghanaian aged about 30 to be thrown overboard into the River Bonny in Nigeria. His body was never found.

The first mate, who carried out the order with the assistance of two crewmen, was sentenced to one year imprisonment.

The two officers had been sentenced twice before, but in both cases the sentences were quashed by the Dutch Supreme Court on legal technicalities and retrials ordered.

The two men were arrested in The Netherlands after members of the ship's crew had reported the matter to the authorities.

Crumbling Cairo: Part 2

Metro strangled in red tape

In the second of two articles on Cairo's problems, our correspondent ROBERT HOLLOWAY describes the difficulties faced by the city's metro project.

They are replacing the pink granite colonnades of Ramses II outside Cairo's main railway station, with a replica. The original, moved from Memphis in 1935 to what may be the most congested square in Africa, is at risk from traffic fumes and vibrations.

Whoever suggested transferring it to the museum may have been anticipating a pharaonic attack of apoplexy. Ramses, the most prodigious builder of antiquity, would not have tolerated the delays plaguing Cairo's metro.

Work began 20 months ago on phase one of the project, a tunnel running for two and a half miles beneath the city centre to link two existing overland suburban lines, and incorporating them into a single, 26-mile system.

Construction is already more than a year behind schedule, not a yard of track has been laid, and the French-led consortium which won the £155m contract refused to predict when the metro, due for completion in 1986, will come into being.

It is even harder to predict what Cairo will look like when it does. More than four million people, one third of the city's population, are believed to crowd each day into communal taxis or noisy and fuel-smelling buses, many of them in transit between Ramses station and Sayeda Zeinab, the terminus

serving the southern industrial complex at Helwan.

Last May, the official news agency reported that Mr Saleh Mutsawilly, the Minister of Transport and Communications, had ordered the removal of all obstacles to excavation of the tunnel and five underground stations. It needed the intervention last month of Dr Foad Mubammad, the Prime Minister, to make it

Toll rises to 36 in collapsing houses

The death toll after the collapse of four houses in Cairo, and Alexandria over the weekend has risen to 36 (Reuters reports).

When three adjoining houses in Cairo collapsed on Saturday, 22 people died and 16 were injured, and 14 died and 10 were injured in Alexandria when a seven-storey building fell down. The daily *Al-Ahram* reported that three housing officials were arrested and charged with manslaughter.

possible for the contractors to block off part of Ramses Street and install mechanical diggers.

"You may not cut down a tree, or tear up a paving stone, without a permit, and you never know which junior army officer will claim that an additional signature is required," lamented an engineer. "The trouble is, the client, Egyptian National Railways, does not own the land we are working on."

When they dig, the contractors have no idea what they will

find. Site work included the removal of a landmark, an empty plaza which stood for years in Tahrir Square, where Anwar Sadat station will be located. No one seems to recall whose statue was originally to stand on the pedestal.

Nor does anyone know how many water and gas mains or electricity cables lie beneath the streets, let alone their precise location. Some were laid during emergencies in the Second World War, others may date from the First.

Those in the know do not deny the legend that one engineer, told by an exasperated official to cut a cable which did not appear on municipal charts, found himself facing an army officer sent to investigate the blowing up of 50 secret telephone lines to military headquarters.

The metro will make it possible to transport 60,000 people an hour, about one million per day, between the suburbs.

The 17 French firms involved, headed by SOGREAH, are concerned about the effect of delays on Cofige, the French Government's export credits department, and big French banks, which together are financing about 70 per cent of the project.

Ramses, confronted with the bureaucracy of his descendants, might have cause to ponder upon his own boast (rendered with licence by Shelley): "Look on my works, ye mighty, and despair".

Concluded



Best foot forward: Pharaoh Ramses II, who is taking refuge from the chaos of modern Cairo in a museum.

Mauritians back Prime Minister in elections

Port Louis (Reuters) - The three-party alliance of Mr Anerood Jugnauth, the Prime Minister, crushed former Finance Minister Paul Berenger's opposition Mauritian Militant Movement (MMM) in general elections yesterday.

Final results gave Mr Jugnauth's alliance 41 parliamentary seats against 21 for the MMM. Mr Berenger was beaten in his home district.

A further eight seats may be allocated later by the country's electoral commission under a complicated "best loser" system, but this cannot change the alliance's lead.

Mr Jugnauth, in a victory statement to enthusiastic supporters said: "We must work for the good of the country and of the people to preserve democracy and build our economy."

Mr Berenger, conceding defeat, said: "The struggle continues but we respect the result of the election."

The election was called just 14 months after Mr Jugnauth, a London-trained lawyer, and Mr Berenger swept to power in an alliance of the MMM, of which they were both members, with the now defunct Mauritian Socialist Party (PSM).

The alliance collapsed last March and Mr Berenger left the Cabinet with most MMM ministers. Mr Jugnauth stayed in power, supported by the PSM which since transformed itself into the Mauritian Socialist Movement (MSM).

LIGHT, MIDDLE & HEAVYWEIGHT. ALREADY ROLLING.



Whatever kind of truck you're looking for, IVECO pack a punch.

THE LIGHTWEIGHTS

In the 3-3.5 tonne light van and chassis cab market nothing stacks up against The Daily. It's big on capacity, tough in construction, mean in consumption and magic when it comes to manoeuvrability and driver appeal. Panel van, chassis cab, petrol or diesel, there's a Daily that fits the bill.

Stepping up a weight there's the Z range of vans and chassis cabs. They're spacy for loads, pacy in performance and mighty mean when it comes to economy. Car or HGV licence, there's

a model in the Z range that's made to measure.

THE MIDDLEWEIGHTS

At 16 tonnes GVW we really start throwing our weight around with our solo rigid and drawbar workhorses. IVECO offers great flexibility at this weight division - a choice of air cooled or water cooled engines and four wheelbase options.

THE HEAVYWEIGHTS

In the heavyweight division we move into top gear with a range of the finest two axle premium specification tractors on the market. Available at 24, 28, 32.5 and 35 tonnes GTW to take advantage of taxation differences, the

16.5.24 tractor is the meanest machine on the street.

When Commercial Motor* tested it, the 16.5.24 turned in better fuel economy figures than any comparable unit. And if that doesn't make it the most competitive tractor in its class, the 16.5.24 is covered by a six year anti-corrosion warranty.

The 190 series is available at 32.5 and 38 tonnes GTW. The top-of-range 190.38 Third Generation 38 tonne GTW tractor boasts a turbocharged 17 litre engine which produces a massive 1217 lb. ft. torque at 1200 rpm. All 190 tractors are covered by a two year driveline and six year anti-corrosion warranty. Still in the

heavyweight division, IVECO multi-axes, construction, off-road and special vehicles live up to their reputation for tough, reliable service.

With 59 dealers in the UK, covering road and construction vehicles, and over 3,500 service points in Europe alone, we've got the set up to match your requirements.

Light, middle or heavyweight, we pack a punch in every division.

So whether you're a one van business, a general haulage contractor, an own account operator or a TIR haulier, contact your IVECO dealer today. See Yellow Pages or call Eric Budworth on 060 65 3400.

You'll see we're already rolling.



International Truck Technology

iveco (U.K.) Limited, Road One, Industrial Estate, Winsford, Cheshire CW7 3QP. Tel: 060 65 3400. Telex 669022

* Commercial Motor 23 July 1983

FASHION

Vivienne Westwood is a by-word for avant-garde London style. Anarchist and artist, she aims to turn ideas on their heads, but she is better known in Europe than back home. Guest writer Georgina Howell talks to the designer who created punk-style, dressed Adam Ant and wants to change the world



The shock of the new

Gentle, fervent, scruffy, Vivienne Westwood is the image of an English missionary with a devilish vocation - to dress the civilized world in primitive warpaint.

Turning ideas on their heads is her stock in trade. Her aim is "to make the poor look rich and the rich look poor". She is, she says, an anarchist and an artist. "It is an artist's job to wreak violence on a culture to give it new life. In taking from other civilisations I'm just doing what Picasso did when he used Negro sculpture imagery in his painting *Demotelle d'Auignon*. He decided that the tradition of the human figure had finally lost its power and that he had to look to emblems of savagery to give it a future."

If Westwood thinks and talks more like a painter than a fashion designer and sees herself as doing to fashion what artists did to art in the early part of this century, the justification must be the clothes themselves. Are they revolutionary? Do they dress the body in a way different from what we traditionally expect? Do they provoke shock and scorn, followed by acceptance and respect translated into hard cash? Will they enter the vocabulary of fashion and change it forever?

It is appropriate to look at her contribution this year, her twelfth in the business and her fourth in the international arena, as she has just taken a major step in the commercial game by moving her production to Italy. After a decade of *outer la fourgeoisie* in the King's Road, she opened the 1980s with the Pirates collection (as worn by Adam and the Ants) which had a tidal effect on the fashion world and sold right across the age barriers. She went from dressing a street to dressing the world in a single move. She announced: "I wish to declare myself an international designer and not a provincial designer". She gave up showing in London and took her next collection to Paris. "You had to miss Givenchy to see Westwood," a fashion editor told me. "It was worth it." With now two shops in London and showrooms in Paris, Milan and Rome, she has been showing in Paris for three seasons, and her last collection, *Witches*, provoked £250,000 worth of orders from Italy alone.

"We've always been self-financed," said Vivienne of her partnership with Malcolm McLaren. "Suddenly our resources were not sufficient to fulfil the kind of orders I was getting. This country takes no account of talent - the banks won't give you the kind of financial backing you need to make your business international. Italy's different. Here all my bank manager wanted to know was whether I had a house I could mortgage. There they back talent with money and give you everything you need to make a million garments instead of 300". She will also be doing consularities and franchises, but has no fear that that might thin down her own collection. "I'm over-programmed with ideas anyway."

While the Westwood/McLaren shop at 430 King's Road turned from Let It Rock to Too Fast to Live, Too Young to Die, to Sex and Seditionaries and currently to World's End, Westwood turned out a stream of clothes and looks unlike anything the fashion world had seen. She picked through time and space and the 'untouchable' areas of big city life to give us rubberwear, bondage trousers, 'muscle' T-shirts from gay gyms, the ripped T-shirt (do it yourself), the triple-tongued sneaker ('something steady to rock on'), the Chico hat, the Smurf hat, pirate swaggers, graffiti prints in baked ink, duster shoes, bras worn over dresses, rags in braided hair, shorts with big hanging pockets... a cornucopia of images both palatable and unpalatable (the Cambridge rapist T-shirt, the court case gay cowboys print) all subversive, classless and undermining the status system of fashion which conventionally 'places' the wearer in a social hierarchy.

Her shop was where the Saturday parade down the King's Road stopped and she worked so close to the ground it was impossible to say which was the chicken, which the egg - did the styles spring from the street or the shop? Did it matter? Her clothes became a badge for the boy who left school early to live in a London squat and for the heiress determined to stand out. In the trade there was shock, there was horror, and there was an overwhelming interest. Joseph Ettedgui of the prospering Joseph shops (who stocked the Pirates collection) found himself constantly playing host to designers and buyers from America, "and all they ever wanted to do was to be taken

straight to Vivienne's shop to see what was cooking".

Vivienne Westwood owes an enormous debt to Malcolm McLaren. If she is the artist, he is the critic and salesman, manager, promoter and exploiter of her talent. "He taught me everything. When I met him I had hardly read a book and never seen a play." She is the daughter of a cotton mill worker from Tintwistle, Manchester, he the son of a cat burglar from the East End. Clean Slate meets Streetsmart. McLaren, the father of one Westwood's two sons, soon had her making him Teddy boy jackets. "Taking a drape suit or a Ted jacket apart stitch by stitch, studying the linings and interlinings, and making an exact copy was my only formal training. It's the best. Leonardo da Vinci said: 'He who can spy can create'."

Manager and inventor of the Sex Pistols, Adam and the Ants, Bow Wow Wow and Boy George of Culture Club, McLaren released his own LP, *Duck Rock*, three months ago. "For the young music is the medium," he told me. "The clothes needed the groups. Now she doesn't necessarily need the music, if her story's powerful enough. When I went into the music business no one wanted to know about the fashion connexion. Now it's the biggest plus you can have. When a pop group signs up with a recording company today there'll be a clause written into the contract that the group will have £1,000 a week to spend in clothes. The Sex Pistols got that ball rolling. As long as the group has the right look today, the music doesn't matter too much."

Although they live apart, their partnership is close. "I always thought all the ideas came from him," says Westwood today. "but I soon realised that getting the job done was the job. That's not to say he's not essential to me. He edits my work, gets all my ideas down on a board, sorts out the story, gives me an avenue of approach. He unscrambles my programming."

When she talks about her clothes, Vivienne Westwood uses words like "grand", "strong" and "free" instead of "beautiful". She cuts in the flat rather than the round, like someone doing origami, but in this she is not unique: it's a technique used by Rei Kawakubo of Comme des Garçons, La Maison Bleu and Kenzo.

Outside the wacky World's End shop (left): Ann Witchard wears orange and green cotton knit top, approx £25, and tube skirt £10. Straw mountain hat £20 and rubber sandals £20. David Bracher wears cream cotton knit shorts £10 and top £25. Double-brim hat £10. Mixing the looks along the King's Road (right): Gene Krill knots his own chambray shirt over a graffiti T-shirt (£25) and hoicked-up trousers, rolled to reveal green fluorescent socks (beloved in the Teddy Boy era) and shocking pink boxer boots. "Buffalo Boy" David Bracher works as a sales assistant in Ryman's and swaps his hobo clothes for a uniform when he arrives at work. Ann Witchard in blazer/uniform print skirt and top from this summer's "Punkature" collection.



Looking Westwood: (left) Kim Sion, public relations officer to Vivienne Westwood in brown chalk striped serge jacket £150, serge kilt with rolled "bandage" waist £120. Marble print shirt £58. Chico hat £20. From the autumn/winter collection "Witches" at World's End, 430 King's Road, SW10 and Nostalgia of Mud, St Christophers Place, W1. Urban Lifestyle: (right) Maroon sweatshirt jacket, print by New York graffiti artist Keith Haring, £84. Sweatshirt tube skirt with baked ink print £44. Linen "Koo" top with fluorescent lime green graffiti £30. Keith Haring scarf £24. Day glo plastic "fire" bracelet by Ted Muehling. Fashion assistant: Christine Pannell. Photographs by Suresh Keradia.

For the last two months up to a collection, Westwood moves out of her sparsely furnished flat in Clapham and into the workshop behind Regent Street. She starts each garment from scratch, pulling cloth around her body and chopping at it from there. She uses an experienced pattern cutter, Mark Tabbard, to show her what is generally done before she works out her own approach.

"What I'm not trying to do with my clothes is to make a kind of shell that stays in place half an inch away from the body. My clothes are dynamic. They pull and they push and they slightly fall off. There's more to clothes than just comfort. Even if they're not quite comfortable and slip and

have to be readjusted now and again I don't mind, because that's some sort of display and gesture that belongs with the clothes."

A Westwood design fits in an unexpected way. When you wear her clothes you are reminded of your body all the time. It's a difficult fit for factories to get used to, which may explain why her clothes, though very well cut, are not always put together properly. Once the clothes are being produced in Italy, she says, her ambition is to hear customers say how well they are made.

McLaren sees the move to Italy as inevitable. "This island is a third world banana republic with no bananas." "It is hard to do well here," he says, "because we are a country of eccentric craftsmen and cottage indus-

tries. The British consider themselves above fashion. If you want to design interesting clothes you must make them in a bedsit and sell them from a market stall, or go and work in a backroom at Dorothea Biss. Neither are Westwood clothes likely to sell in enormous quantities in the United States because there the rich like to look rich."

"In both countries the people who buy our clothes are the dispossessed, the disillusioned, the graphic artists and the liberated mothers". The biggest orders come from Japan and Italy, which he finds appropriate. "Japan was for so long an isolated island that it has never got over its hunger for the status of ideas. Italy is the country of Fellini and the grand gesture. They like to mess around."

At the end of the year Vivienne Westwood will receive one of the fashion industry's highest accolades when, like Jean Muir and Zandra Rhodes before her, she will represent Britain in the Women's Wear-Daily Biannual Best of Five event in Tokyo, alongside such names as Calvin Klein of the US, Claude Montana of France and Gianfranco Ferré of Italy.

It seems that she has made a niche in the fashion establishment, and perhaps changed its point of view a little. Will she be able to keep one foot in the street and one in high fashion? If she is still getting her clothes talked about in five years time, she'll have achieved something unique. As anthropologist Ted Polhemus, co-author of *Fashion and Anti-Fashion* put it: "High fashion has undoubtedly gained by admitting Vivienne to their fold. Has street style lost its greatest champion?"

Suzi Menkes is on holiday



These hand-painted ties are for individuals. Mannequin Buzz (left) wears silk bow £12 from Crolla, 35 Dover Street, W1. Scott has a woven hat tie £16 from Crolla. Striped shirt by Perry Ellis, Braces, Braces, Paul Smith. Gene (front) sports silk tie £11.95. Royal Academy of Arts Gift Shop. T-shirt £48. Chatters, South Molton Street, W1. Dummies £160 each from Metro Grand Mannequins, 1-3 Canadair Road, SW11.

UPSET TUMMY? UPSET HOLIDAY!

Don't have your holiday ruined by an upset stomach and diarrhoea. Remember to pack Enterosan - the tablet form of kaolin and morphine - handy to take away, or to keep in the medicine cupboard.

Ask your chemist for it

Enterosan

—SHOES MADE BY CRAFTSMEN · FOR GENTLEMEN—

A range of superior leather shoes from about £40. To admire them send for the Chaney and Royal Seaport brochure.

Chaney



THE TIMES DIARY

Chutzpah

Naim Attalah of Quarter Books has entered *God Cried* written by Tony Clifton for the £3,000 H. H. Wingate Prize. What makes this noteworthy is that *God Cried* is a vivid eyewitness indictment of Israel's brutality in last year's siege of Beirut, and that the Wingate prize is for the author of the book that does most to stimulate interest in Jewish affairs. Attalah, a Palestinian patriot, agrees there is scant prospect that Clifton will win. "For us it is worthwhile because at least the judges will have to look at the book and see the other point of view," he says.

Well red

Unseated MPs habitually welcome the chance to catch up on their reading. Tony Benn has arranged to get paid for it as well. He has been signed by Faber to edit its *Radical Reader*, a compilation of writings of the left from the Peasants' Revolt to the present day.

Goff's gaffe

Maryn Goff, director of the National Book League, has the pleasure this week of seeing one of his novels republished as a classic text. Brilliance Books, a new imprint devoted to homosexual themes, has already republished Gertrude Stein and Jean Cocteau, and on Thursday reissues Goff's *The Younger Director*, which originally appeared in 1961. As a classic, the text is of course unaltered from the hardback original, which is unfortunate because over the intervening years Goff had forgotten that his intended ending to the book was cut by John Putney, then editorial director at Putnam. Goff had it reinstated for the subsequent paperback, but it is missing again from the new edition. "It is strange how one forgets something that seemed so important at the time," Goff muses.

Maid to measure

The latest issue of *Broadcast* notes that Thames Television, an equal opportunity employer, now boasts a woman VTR editor, but that inquiries as to her identity were met with sheepish shuffling. "It appears a resident VTR editor underwent a sex change operation. It's a bit of a drastic measure to ensure a quota of women in production."

● The equality officer of the London freelance branch of the National Union of Journalists is the equally named Michael Ann Mullen.

Mal de Mel

My colleague Mel Calman has staged an Edinburgh festival exhibition of cartoons from his Workshop gallery in the Assembly Rooms. Sales are so slow that yesterday Calman took to working as a pavement artist outside, with a hat for contributions. By mid-afternoon he had raised all of 37½p.



"This can't be right. It shows Geoff Boycott scoring a century before lunch."

Ioned out

Some months ago I acquired on loan an ionizer from a new shop in Battersea, the Ion Age, who suggested that it be sited in the bedroom of an asthmatic sufferer of my choice. The would-be, I was assured, swift and spectacular improvement in the patient's condition. Not so. In fact the device attracted pollutants, depositing them as a grimy film on nearby surfaces, while the wheezing carried on as usual. A fellow asthmatic - a much more severe case who, between trips to his oxygen cylinder, logs his condition - also found the ionizer made no difference. The Asthma Research Council confirms my unofficial findings and reckons ionizers are useless. Hard luck, Ion Age: harder luck still for hopeful asthmatics who might have bought an ionizer, some of which sell for more than £70.

● From the South Lewisham Institute, I note that classes in cooking will be taken by Mrs. Delicata, the short Greek course by Mrs. Economou, and those repairs by Mr. Amato. Spanish dancing, on the other hand, will be done by Mrs. Rumbold, with husband Sid on guitar.

Among the victims of the war in Chad could be two species of antelope, the scimitar horned oryx and the addax. The Fauna and Flora Preservation Society is Chad-watching with particular concern because the oryx is its emblem and as oryx is its quarterly magazine, adopted in 1950 for no better reason than that it was "convenient and attractive".

PHS

Give the watchdogs more bite

The electricity industry has just declared a surplus of £332m for 1982/83, pleasing the Treasury but not consumers. In New York last year, the regulatory commission ordered the private gas and electric utilities to return \$104m excess profits to customers. Monopoly services in Britain are publicly owned and rarely give anything back.

It is clear that if we are going to privatize natural monopolies they must be regulated. Ofel has been created to regulate British Telecom, and a debate is in progress on how best it should function. But some form of regulation is also needed for monopolies such as electricity, posts, and water, which are likely to remain public for a long time yet.

Franklin Roosevelt, as Governor of New York State, said that regulatory commissions were to be "the representatives of the people to see that utilities do two things: give service and charge a reasonable rate".

The commissions have a judicial power to determine issues. They base their decisions on federal and state laws, and on their own precedents. When a private American utility wants to increase its tariffs, it has to apply to the commissioners and justify the reasons for the increase in great detail. It has to go through its budget in a process that is similar to a public inquiry (but is under oath). The commission's staff critically analyses the utility's submission and, to assist their analysis, can demand any information.

The commissioners' ruling on an application gives detailed reasons for their decision, which can be challenged in the courts. They may disallow certain expenditures, such as excessive advertising or cost overruns on capital schemes that have been mismanaged, and would definitely disallow losses on activities that are secondary to the utility's main business, such as appliance selling and gas and electrical contracting. Disallowed costs are carried by the shareholders - an incentive for good management - and cannot be passed on to consumers (as happens here, without any explanation).

The rigour and openness of this process in

Alex Henney puts the case for American-style regulation of our monopoly services, whether privatized or remaining in the public sector

stark contrast to British practice. In electricity supply, the Generating Board sets its wholesale tariffs (some 80 per cent of the final price to the consumer) in secret discussions with the government and the Electricity Council, and has resisted consultation with the Electricity Consumers Council. As for retail tariffs, the London Electricity Board (and I suspect others are little different) traditionally receives a schedule showing the proposed tariffs, a sales and demand forecast, an explanatory memorandum about fuel costs and government financial targets, and a one-page budget for LEB's operating costs of nearly £200m. With such skimpy documentation, I cannot see how Board members can be satisfied that they are fulfilling their duties to promote the efficient distribution of electricity and avoid tariff discrimination.

The consumer councils have neither the powers nor, with some exceptions, the expertise to scrutinize and challenge industries' performance. In electricity, they typically spend only two or three hours a year considering tariffs, often in closed session, and show little interest in value-for-money audits. The record of government has not been much better. It has frequently been criticized in official reports for failing to monitor nationalized industries; it "asked" them to publish performance indicators in 1967, but did not follow up effectively. The Price Commission was often facile, and it was toothless. The industries, for their part, are unduly secretive and have always resisted external scrutiny.

Times are changing, and the Government is taking a more active interest in efficiency, and in making the industries more open. It has started to set performance targets for

boards, has directed the Monopolies Commission to management audit them, and is requiring them to publish better indicators. It has made the planning application for the Sizewell B nuclear power station into a major public inquiry.

But we must go further to make public boards more accountable and consumer responsive. We must abolish cosy paternalism in favour of public accountability, public performance monitoring, public scrutiny - and bonuses for managers who perform well. External board members should be given clear statutory responsibilities, including that of operating scrutiny committees, and a fiduciary duty that could be challenged in the courts. The standard required of the industries' external auditors should be raised to that now required of local authority audits, namely to report on matters in the public interest and on value for money in consumer services.

More radically, we should draw upon best American practice and set up utility commissions. They would scrutinize board performance on behalf of Parliament and consumers, and exercise limited powers of direction. They should hear applications for tariff increases in public and have access to documents, disallow expenditures that are not adequately justified, undertake efficiency studies and order boards to discontinue loss-making peripheral activities; direct the form of their reports and accounts; and rule on consumer complaints.

Given the right statutory framework, commissions would distance monopoly services from the government, getting it away from the current minutiae with which it is involved and leaving it to concentrate on major issues. We need to reduce the scope for the sloppiness, ambiguities, and confusion that have characterized relations between governments, nationalized industries, and their consumers for the last 30 years and to develop an adequate system of checks and balances.

The author is chairman of the London Electricity Consultative Council and a board member of the LEB.

As the dust of Lebanon settles, diplomatic victories on all fronts

Israel at last comes in from the cold

Jerusalem In New York last Friday, Avraham Ben-Yosef, the Israeli Defence Ministry's adroit representative in the United States, put his signature to a \$2,700m arms deal which will ensure Israel the delivery of 75 ultra-sophisticated F-16 warplanes.

The little-publicized signing ceremony was significant not only because of the size of the deal - the largest ever negotiated between Israel and the US - but also for its symbolism. At the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem, it was viewed as conclusive proof that Israel has shaken off the status of diplomatic pariah which resulted from the war in Lebanon.

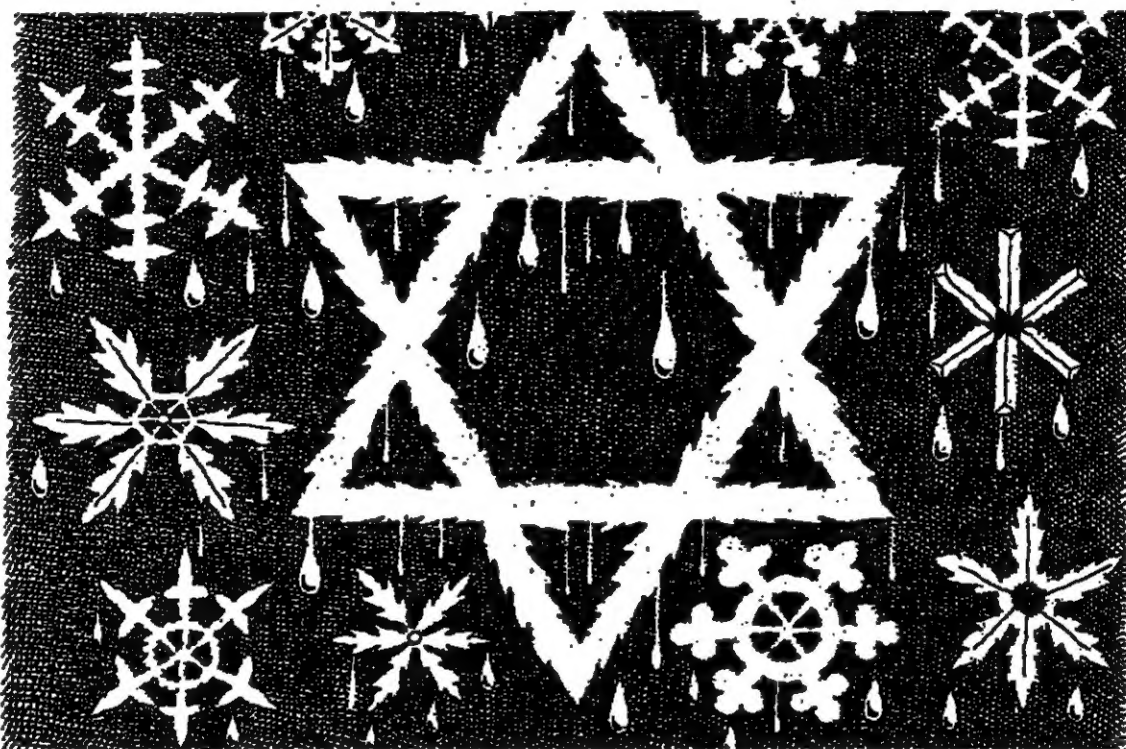
Soon after Israeli tanks rumbled north on June 6, 1982, the impending F-16 deal was indefinitely frozen on the instructions of President Reagan. The decision to allow it to proceed was taken in Washington soon after May 17 this year, the day that Israel signed the pact with Lebanon, which has proved the key to its escape from diplomatic isolation.

"Although the agreement has never been implemented, or even ratified by the Lebanese government, it was seen around the world as evidence of our good intentions," explained an Israeli official. "The mere fact that we had signed our second pact with an Arab neighbour made a lot of governments look at us in a different light."

In addition to the agreement - which is destined never to come into operation until Syria agrees to leave Lebanon - the departure of reserve General Ariel Sharon from the Defence Ministry, and the ambitions of Colonel Gaddafi of Libya, have also helped the Begin government stage its diplomatic comeback.

One of the factors influencing Liberia's recent decision to resume diplomatic relations was Israel's promise to use its political clout in Washington on President Doe's behalf. It is now hoped that others of the eight black African states which originally indicated they would follow the example set by Zaire just a month before the Lebanon invasion would return their ambassadors before the end of the year.

A few weeks ago, Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, held secret talks in Washington with President Felix Houphouët-Boigny, the septuagen-



This is now being demonstrated with the arrival of Liberian President Samuel K. Doe, the first black African head of state to visit Israel since 1971, two years before 26 African countries broke their diplomatic ties in protest over the Yom Kippur war.

Although the Israelis do not regard the former sergeant as one of Africa's leading statesmen, they see his willingness to travel here with six government ministers and a well-staffed entourage as evidence that the diplomatic tide in Africa is beginning to turn in their favour.

One of the factors influencing Liberia's recent decision to resume diplomatic relations was Israel's promise to use its political clout in Washington on President Doe's behalf. It is now hoped that others of the eight black African states which originally indicated they would follow the example set by Zaire just a month before the Lebanon invasion would return their ambassadors before the end of the year.

A few weeks ago, Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, held secret talks in Washington with President Felix Houphouët-Boigny, the septuagen-

arian leader of the Ivory Coast, and there have been a string of similar clandestine talks with representatives of the other countries on which Israel is now pinning its hopes in Africa. These include Nigeria, Togo, the Central African Republic, Kenya and Senegal.

Although the markedly improved relations with the US are seen as the most important by-product of the Lebanon agreement, there is also satisfaction at Israel's improved diplomatic standing in Western Europe.

This was most clearly manifested in June when the EEC collectively renounced the income sanctions imposed after the invasion of Lebanon, including a prohibition preventing the financially hard-pressed Israeli government securing loans on preferential terms.

Two more concrete examples of Israel's return to favour were the decision of Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany to make what is certain to be a controversial visit to Jerusalem this month and the move by Liberia, the Spanish national airline, to open a direct route to Tel Aviv in July.

This is regarded by Israeli

diplomats as a precursor of the opening of full diplomatic ties with Spain. To support their optimism, they cite recent visits here by a number of leading Spaniards and the appointment of an unofficial Israeli representative in Madrid.

Even in Eastern Europe, Israeli diplomacy has scored a success with last week's visit to Bucharest by Mr Shamir and the promise of improved trading ties between Israel and Romania. "We would have thought that a year to the day since the heaviest bombing of west Beirut, our minister would have been warmly welcomed in a communist capital," remarked one member of the Israeli party.

Amid the current diplomatic euphoria, Egypt still refuses to return the ambassador withdrawn from Tel Aviv last September. As President Mubarak continues his efforts to reassert Egypt's traditional influence in the Arab world, the Israelis see little chance of any immediate thaw in what they now describe as "the cold peace". Their one consolation is that they also see no real danger of the Camp David treaty being revoked by Cairo.

Christopher Walker

Rocking to rule with a Christian superstar

Budapest In heaven, a special table must surely be reserved for those who have become the subjects of jaunty musicals and heavy rock operas. Eva Peron and Che Guevara, Elvis Presley, draft dodgers, deaf-and-dumb pinball players, nobody, it seems, is safe from posthumous trial by noise. For no apparent reason, lights flash, guitars throb, lasers lace and grown men dressed in costume ride horses across ice rinks.

Until last weekend King Stephen of Hungary was simply the man who established Christianity in his country. He was crowned on Christmas Day in the year 1000, received the blessing of the Pope and, in due course, was canonized. Later, on his feast day, King Wenceslaus went out and gathered winter fuel, providing useful material for a carol. That was about it: a good pedigree, a decent sort of life.

Now Stephen has become the hero of a rock opera, Hungary's first. *Stephen the King* written by the rock musician Levente Szörényi and the lyricist Janos Brody, has just been performed for three days in Budapest.

Actress Eniko Toth provided the love interest and costumers ran up several pairs of tight trousers for King Stephen's stage meeting with the Pope. The show was neither worse nor better than dozens of

similar extravaganzas. Now the whole thing will be recorded at a new studio on the outskirts of the city.

The opera illustrates the competing trends in the official approach to rock music in Eastern Europe. One trend takes its measure from Moscow where the new Andropovian ideological message is to protect the young, steer them in "progressive" directions, be vigilant against western decadence, take off your Pink Floyd T-shirts. In Moscow some rock bands - notably The Peddlers - have been banned, others reprimanded for "distorting traditional Russian tunes. In Poland, punk bands such as Perfect have been barred from appearing, the group SS-20 has been told to change its name, and lyrics are regularly censored.

The other trend is dictated by economics: hard currency is at a premium and some groups are selling their products abroad. These are tolerated. Even western groups such as Nazareth have been allowed to perform in Hungary - providing that a suitable deal is reached. In the case of Nazareth, the performance - in the Budapest hills - will be filmed, and will feature in an American-Hungarian horror film to be marketed abroad. It is financed by British money.

Stephen the King is an extension of this trend. Rock operas, East European planners have decided, are exportable. Thus the director of theatre of the Lenin Komsomol in Moscow is planning to take his successful rock opera *Janos and Anos* to the west. According to businessmen who are involved in the transaction, the show meets the highest western standards of saccharine.

The story stars a Russian nobleman who in 1812 sails to California and falls in love with a 15-year-old girl. He returns home to seek the approval of the Tsar for marriage but dies en route in Siberia. The girl, who hears nothing from him for 35 years, goes into a convent and dies there, never betraying their love.

Stephen is not quiet as bad but it too shows a concern with the past, a sense of national continuity that produces socialism.

Despite Soviet strictures to its youth, domestic demand has to be satisfied in some way. Rock music comes over the airwaves via western radio stations and detente opened up the East in a way that cannot easily be closed. New studios just completed outside Budapest - at a cost equivalent to £600,000 - are designed to release pop and rock music for young Hungarians under four labels. The studios will have an

independent budget and musicians will be able to choose under which label they want to perform - thus large sign-up contracts are possible as in the West, for popular artists.

In Poland, businessmen have been considering for some time now how a similar scheme could be worked. One idea is that British groups whose reputations are beginning to flag in the West could be brought to the East for relatively cheap tours. Then make a record at Polish studios, which could be sold in the West. This would meet domestic demand and satisfy the current hunger for hard currency.

The best bet for the East European planners is still rock opera. The ideological message can be more closely controlled and, quite simply, the Marxist mind understands bad opera. The years when "socialist realism" set the tone of all performing arts provided a vast and formidable crop of operas about the building of power stations, a favourite metaphor for the building of socialism.

But must all rock operas be set in the distant past? Can we not look forward to a spectacular layer show about Stalin's friendship with Trotsky? Can we set the purges to music? Watch this space.

Roger Boyes

Roger Scruton

To the Gulag via Helsinki

The purpose of dancing is the dance. The purpose of chatter is the chat. Human life presents countless social occasions, in which we renounce our business, and find pleasure in the present moment alone. All time not spent in dancing or in conversation is wasted time. For these moments contain not the means of human existence but the end. The dancer and the talker are at rest - but actively at rest, rejoicing in their social condition, and at one with their fellow men.

The most valuable relations are also those, like friendship, which have no further purpose. The opposite of friendship is not hatred but crime. The crime is the man whose purpose is an object, whose every opposing claim. He is the man prepared, through force, fraud or exploitation, to discount the freedom of the other who stands in his way. He is the true enemy of peace, for he destroys the trust which makes conversation possible.

States are more like people than they are like anything else: they exist by purpose, reason, suffering, and joy. And peace between states is also like peace between people. It involves the willing renunciation of purpose, in the mutual desire, not to do, but to be.

Peace is endangered, therefore, not by the weapons of the peaceful, but by the actions of the purposeful. There exist states, just as there exist people, whose lives are structured by a purpose, and who cannot accept another's freedom as an obstacle to its fulfilment. The overriding aim is so urgent that neither the freedom nor the existence of another people can deflect it.

If the purpose is also international - involving transformations beyond the frontiers of municipal government - then peace has already been put at risk. We know this from Iran and Libya. But we ought also to have known it from the Soviet Union, a state founded upon a consuming international purpose, which has never ceased to impose its preferred political order upon unwilling recipients, whether in its own domains, or in the domains of clients and neighbours.

Criminal law exists in order to deter the over-purposeful. But international law, which lacks the supreme coercive power of a sovereign authority, cannot exert any comparable influence. It is obeyed only because states agree to be bound by it. Of course, all states appear to be bound by international law, since there is value in sustaining this appearance. But states with a ruling purpose cannot really be bound: they cannot be bound "in their hearts". For their hearts are ruled by something other than law, something which discounts law whenever it conflicts with the overriding idea.

States which accept international law do so because it is the universal

shadow of a principle by which they already live. Thus Canada and the United States, each of which is governed by a rule of law, find no difficulty in coexisting, despite longstanding disagreements over territorial waters and disputed islands. No troops amass on their common border, no threats are made, of sanctions imposed. For a legal decision will suffice to regulate the conduct of the parties.

The mark of the purposeful polis is that it cannot be governed by law, that actual law is a pretence, which vanishes just as soon as the ruling purpose is questioned, or compromised. Such states are never truly at peace, since they are never at rest. To converse with them is dangerous; to cease to confront them yet more so.

Consider the Helsinki accords, established in order to reduce the tension in Europe. The "agreement" was twofold: to reduce military preparations, and to extend human rights. Our native politicians imagined that this agreement was genuine, and took comfort from the fact that it was "made law" by the Soviet state. What a joke! Of course it was convenient to pretend to the

A brilliant new method was acquired for identifying troublemakers. The brief pretence of legality encouraged the bravest and best citizens to come forward to attempt to secure obedience to this novel law which seemed to grant essential freedoms

agreement, and to dress it up in the bourgeois trappings of legality. Western eyes were closed for a while to the renewed build-up of armaments.

Moreover, a brilliant new method was acquired for identifying troublemakers. The brief pretence of legality encouraged the bravest and best of the citizens to come forward, to associate, to attempt to secure obedience to this novel law which seemed to grant essential freedoms. No more economical way could have been discovered of persuading the next inmates of the Gulag to give themselves up.

And, for some unaccountable reason, we are still discussing, still attempting even to "renew" this "agreement" that has so endangered us. Is it not time that we woke up, time that we realized that we should feel bound by agreements only towards those who are able to respect them?

Paul Jennings

Class warfare on the open road

Now that car registrations have got around to A again (whatever happened to Z? Surely they didn't skip it merely because of associations with that old TV serial?) this is peak alienation time for the average motorist. And that is surely the majority of us, still paying off the loan for some model in the P to T period, wondering uneasily if the tin of petrol touch-up we finally settled for is too far away, now we actually squint some out in daylight, from the colour which surrounds the creeping rust on the offside headlight. (And what does that idiotic little ball inside that rattles so, when we shake vigorously for two minutes, as instructed on the tin, actually do? It sounds so loose and unconnected. We are definitely Class Three.)

Class Two are the ever-diminishing number who can afford to be in the queue, alleged to be waiting impatiently for the new leather, plus the evidently ever-increasing number of those who will automatically receive one of their Fleet Buyer (see Class One, below).

It is difficult enough to define our feelings about Class Two. I don't think we actually envy them. Many of us can remember the days when it was possible even for the likes of us to buy a new car, depreciating like crazy from Day One, making us worry about how long we could stay up there. How much worse it must be now they start at £4,000. At least our cars are past worrying about it that way. If we actually had £4,000 there are lots of jollier things we could do than buy a new car. We could get a garage to fix that damn rust on the existing car (engine surely good for another 30,000 miles) and take a few friends to some marvellous place we haven't seen yet (in my case, Venice). Get fitted carpet on the landing and the other bedrooms. Buy three more old cars for teenage children (save us being a taxi service). Perhaps even manage Covent Garden more than once every three years.

On the one hand, if it were not for Class Two there would not be a car industry, and somehow this would affect all the other industries. We should be peasants in smocks, stared at by Japanese and even Taiwanese tourists, and England would somehow be full of lies. On the other hand, it is because of these Class Two people that we pass on the pavements and in rows outside garages on the outskirts of cities, where land is cheaper, hundreds and hundreds of the kind of car we know in our hearts we shall have to get when this thing finally stops dead with a broken piston (and they do, they stop dead, either at 2 am, on some moor or on Saturday morning

in some bottleneck High Street); and these cars have large stickers in red or yellow luminous paint from which it is clear they start at £2,495. Only a year, and the Fleet Buyers are at it again, somehow compelling these garages to take these Vs and Ws and Xs, and now, heaven help us, Ys.

Now, one is constantly reading, or hearing on TV, about Class One, the Fleet Buyers. What feelings should we have towards them? Up to now they have always been men, of a curiously forgettable kind. Well, sooner or later, some of them, as in every other job in the world except that of the Papacy, will be women. You couldn't imagine a Mammy, but it's perfectly possible to imagine women Fleet Buyers.

The question is, have the manufacturers imagined them? Has it, for instance, occurred to them that almost all car names up till now have been classic examples of male chauvinism? Indeed, the very first one I can remember (having grown up in Coventry, in or near which were made, with the exception of Vauxhall and Ford, all British cars, which 98 per cent of British people used to buy: Standard, Alvis, Triumph, Armstrong-Siddeley, Daimler, Morris, Singer, Riley, Hillman, Humber, with Rover and Austin not far away) was the Hillman Minx. With *Spitfire*, the perfect image of woman as a kind of spirited toy.

Then came all the male macho names: Rapier, Jaguar, Stag, Sentinel, Avenger (what of, for goodness' sake? Somebody daring to try to pass you?) Following this, perhaps from an awareness that there were already women buyers, if not Fleet Buyers, a softening, down to Herald, Cavalier, Escort.

Then there were sports and resorts: Corina, Granada, Golf, Polo, one hopes against hope that when the Chinese finally export one it will be the Ping Pong. Or total mysteries, like the Passat (an expensive resort in the Atlas Mountains, known only to rich Germans).

The psychologists employed by these increasingly faceless and inter-linked giant car firms will have their work cut out to find names striking a chord in the female mind. Shall we soon be driving Atlantides, Gonorels, or the Alasco, Megara or Tisiphone (the Furie), the Vingo, Termagant Six, Tigressa, Regan, Lesbia, Amazon, Lady Macbeth? Or were other psychologists right all the time about the subconscious female desire to be dominated, was *Maestro* a brilliant anticipation? It will be long after 1984 when we Class Three get to know.

مكتبة الادب



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

LENDER OF LAST RESORT

Aid to poor countries has never been free of controversy, but rarely has the debate been as heartfelt as it is now. While the poorest countries feel the onslaught of the world recession most keenly, the rich are suffering an acute attack of what Mr A. W. Clausen, the president of the World Bank, has colourfully called "aid fatigue". Multilateral aid agencies are especially susceptible to this complaint, and the worst afflicted at present is the International Development Association.

IDA is the concessionary loan arm of the World Bank, lending to the most indigent peoples on the most generous of terms. Since its formation in 1961 it has gained general respect for the efficiency of its programmes, and is widely regarded as the best run multilateral aid agency. Even IDA's powerful critics in Washington accept that its funds are not wasted.

But that recognition has not prevented the American administration from announcing that its contributions to the seventh round of IDA funding, due to start on July 1 next year, will be severely cut. If, as it says, these contributions are reduced from about \$1,000m a year to \$750m, other countries would normally lower their contributions as well because they are supposed to reflect relative economic size. So the total funding for IDA might fall from \$12,000m, the level for the past four years, to \$9,000m in nominal terms. In real terms, of course, the reduction would be much more.

The US administration, which is antipathetic to aid, is suspicious of IDA because that body is largely bipartisan. Congress believes that IDA lends too much to countries hostile to the United States, and prefers the tighter control conferred by bilateral assistance. So adamant has the administration been that

IDA is very worried that the \$16,000m it believes to be the minimum necessary may prove unattainable.

Broadly speaking, the other major donor countries favour a larger IDA than that implied by the United States, and Japan has offered to raise its percentage share. Time is running out for an agreement to bring IDA 7 into operation by the middle of next year.

There is a strong case for sustaining IDA. Not only is it an effective organization, but it is hard to replace. Because its loans are over 50 years and carry no interest, the net disbursements are very high. For countries such as those in sub-Saharan Africa which depend heavily on IDA a shortfall in assistance could be painful. It is most unlikely that other agencies would step into the breach, given the general reduction in aid budgets, and these are hardly the countries to be favoured by commercial banks already dangerously exposed in Latin America.

Sustaining IDA does not necessarily mean supplying the full amount its officials are asking for. If it were to continue to be funded at \$12,000m there would be less in real terms than for IDA 6, even before China, a new IDA member, is taken into account. But there are two things IDA could do to mitigate the reduction. One is to change the eligibility criteria for borrowing from IDA. The American Administration, for example, argues that India, the biggest recipient, is now in a sufficiently healthy state to raise substantial loans on the market, which has not been its practice. India should not lose all eligibility – it is easier to raise bank finance for some projects than for others. But a partial graduation from IDA would free funds for China.

A second course is for IDA to reconsider the terms on which it

both raises and dispenses money. Under its charter, IDA is allowed to borrow commercially, from members and from the markets. It could borrow at subsidised rates from members, and would certainly command the finest rates in the market. Conversely, this would imply charging more for loans. Maturities might be shortened, say to 30 years, for the "blend" countries which also borrow from the more expensive World Bank, and IDA could even charge nominal interest, depending on the recipient's circumstances.

So far, however, the IDA management has been unwilling actively to explore these possibilities. Those countries that recognize the virtues of a strong and well-funded IDA should be encouraging debate and providing the leadership partly abdicated by the Americans. Britain has an important role to play. Some 70 per cent of this country's contribution to IDA goes to Commonwealth members, and for every pound contributed Britain receives two in orders. British support for IDA was demonstrated last year when IDA 6 was extended by a year after Congress blocked payments.

Britain, in common with other wealthy countries, suffers from budgetary constraints. The Government prefers bilateral assistance, but is committed to multilateral aid through the European Development Fund and the Lomé Convention, which is due to be re-negotiated next year, as well as IDA and the World Bank. But sustaining IDA at a reasonable level does not appear impossibly expensive, and is some contribution to stability in a fractious world. IDA and millions of the very poorest would benefit if the British government were to show that it is not incapacitated by aid fatigue.

DEATH IN MANILA

The full impact of ex-Senator Aquino's assassination while leaving a plane in Manila under armed guard must await the investigation promised by the government. It has been a shocking reminder of the violence that has never been absent from Philippine political life. Mr Aquino's own description of his rival President Marcos conveys the style: "a very calculating man, who would rather persuade before he bribes, bribe before he threatens, threaten before he arrests, arrest before he kills".

Even allowing for this violence, the known circumstances are incredible enough. In July, two months after Mr Aquino had announced his intended return, with or without a passport, he was given a message from President Marcos warning him that there were men after his blood and that the government needed more time to "neutralize" these agents of revenge, otherwise Mr Aquino might suffer.

On the face of it President Marcos will be the stronger from the death of a formidable political rival. Yet it did not seem that Mr Aquino's return to political life would have been as

successful as he hoped in uniting the opposition to the President. In that case his martyrdom may not unite or invigorate the opposition either. The incident may nevertheless damage President Marcos. A man whose first aim at all times has been to keep himself in power, changing the constitution, imposing martial law, fixing elections in the many ways tried by local tradition, building up his personality, exploiting his wife's varied abilities and rewarding his carefully chosen henchmen must expect that after eighteen years his magic will begin to lose its sheen.

Public feeling may be so much jolted and shamed by what has happened that, whatever the explanation proffered, a shift away from President Marcos will be accelerated. Already this has been set in motion by disappointment over the economy. In many other ways the glamour attaching to the President has not much life left in it: not enough, perhaps, to carry him through the four years left of his current term.

Some such opinion seems to be gaining ground in Washing-

ton. The large American naval and air bases in the Philippines make it the most important country in south-east Asia in American consideration. If there is to be change it had better not be sudden or unforeseen, such as was the Shah's catastrophic dismissal in Iran. Relations with President Carter were cool because he made much of human rights; President Reagan has been full of warmth for President Marcos as a sound ally. Some distancing from this uncertain leader has been suggested and may now be urged more strongly, especially as the agreement for American bases is due for renewal next year.

There are other sources of generalized criticism of President Marcos that carry weight. When he visited the Philippines in February, 1981, Pope John Paul said pointedly that the exigencies of state should not take precedence over human rights. Since that visit the Roman Catholic church in the Philippines has been more and more critical of the way in which President Marcos uses his dictatorial power. Mr Aquino's death will have its reverberations far beyond the Philippines.

A RAT TO THE RESCUE

It is easy to be superior about the reasons for the turn-round in the fortunes of TV-am's *Good Morning Britain* programme. It has recovered from the depths of despair at weekday peak viewing figures of 200,000 in the spring to 1,600,000, 400,000 more than its rival, the BBC's *Breakfast Time*. Dieting with Miss Diana Dors, pop videos and cartoons are clearly what people like at that time of day. And who, in a free society, can complain if such harmless wants are gratified?

The hero of the revival at Camden Lock is Mr Greg Dyke who was brought in from *London Weekend Television* to lead the station from the brink of ruin. But its symbol is Roland Rat, an engaging creature with a Black Country accent. His snappy chat, interspersed with children's cartoons, draws TV-am's peak audience at nine o'clock in the morning. He even manages to incorporate into his routine Mr Peter Jay's "mission to explain" which so impressed the Independent Broadcasting Auth-

ority before awarding its breakfast television franchise.

Last Friday, for example, Roland, who travels the highways and by-ways in an old 1950s Ford emblazoned with the crest "Rat on the Road", was visiting Blenheim. He found time to put right the intellectual shortcomings of his foil, Kevin the Gerbil, who insisted that the most famous baby to be born at the Palace, Sir Winston Churchill, had been a king. With a quick quote from the old warrior's "Never in the history of human conflict" speech, Roland told Kevin that Sir Winston had been a "Prime Minister" (sic). With a bit of gratuitous criticism of Shakespeare for having written his sonnets with lines the wrong way round, the furry duo were back on the road.

As Mr Dyke clearly appreciates, the British have always had a weakness for showbusiness animals like Larry the Lamb with his cracked, clubland accent, Flanders and Swann's Gnu, birds or even insects as witnessed by the enduring popularity of Mr Arthur Askey's busy

bee. The weakness is doubtless shared by the "Good and Great" who make up the IBA, but they cannot be entirely happy at the manner of TV-am's renaissance. Despite Roland's skill as a historian and literary critic, his output bears no relationship to the original prospectus submitted by Mr Jay and the "Famous Five".

The IBA has a duty under section 3 (1) of the Television Act, 1954, to satisfy itself that "programmes maintain a proper balance in their subject matter and a high general standard of quality". When Mr Dyke rode to the rescue, there were fears that he would take an exclusively low road to recovery. This he has done. The IBA, no doubt, is mightily relieved that it is not faced with a bankrupt, no-hope television station. The story of Camden Lock has shown that the IBA has both failed in its statutory duty as the public's guardian of quality and that it has no influence, despite the power of the franchise, for shaping public taste.

press is indirectly giving them to defendants.

Over the years I have found that justices are generally not unhappy about their names being given to the press – with the possible exception of the magistrate who had his café burnt down on a number of occasions by a dissatisfied "customer" – but I have also found that when the problem is pointed out to reporters they are normally prepared to avoid putting justices at risk unnecessarily, and their account of

the proceedings is none the worse for omitting the chairman's name. In any event the press must be aware, even if the defendant is not, that the decision the chairman announces may not accord with his or her own view; he or she is simply expressing the decision of the court. Yours faithfully, ALAN J. M. BALDWIN, Clerk of the Justices, Magistrates' Court, Harworth Road, Feltham, Middlesex.

Nameless JPs

From Mr A. J. M. Baldwin
Sir, The real problem is surely this. No one seems to expect the names of justices to be given to defendants for obvious reasons, but some expect the names to be given to newspaper reporters. Reporters only want the justices' names so that they can publish them in their newspapers. As some defendants presumably read newspapers, a court which gives the names of justices to the

Privatization and social needs

From Mr G. C. Ingram

Sir, I refer to your leader (August 17) on the privatization of nationalized industries. In my opinion, your reasoning results in a misleading conclusion since you apply economic criteria to a situation that must be considered in a wider social context. Therefore the danger is not so much in "failing to think through the purpose of privatization", more in forgetting one of the purposes for nationalization, namely, total public benefit.

I agree that the ultimate benefit to the community is what matters. However, to measure this solely in economic terms prolongs the confusion that has existed since 1948. The concept of marginal cost pricing, so bravely proposed in the 1967 White Paper (*Nationalized Industries: A Review of Economic and Financial Objectives*), was generally abandoned in 1978 (*The Nationalized Industries*, Cmd 7131) as being unworkable.

Some people have argued that social benefit can be measured by a "willingness to pay" (R. Turvey in his book, *Economic Analysis and Public Enterprise*) but this also evades the complexities of the situation. This letter is not intended as justification for maintaining unprofitable operations and a quiet life, or for resource misallocation. It is a plea to consider privatization with a social conscience rather than simply political rhetoric.

The elimination of loss-making sections of the nationalized industries simply because they do not, or cannot be made to conform to marginal cost pricing will certainly lead to a "massive and irreversible change" to the nation's detriment.

Yours faithfully,
G. C. INGRAM,
15 Belhaven Terrace Place,
Glasgow,
August 18.

Facts come first

From Dr Cyril S. Smith

Sir, In your leader, "Facts come first" (August 9) you suggested that this council might be commissioned to conduct research to provide "models of the welfare state and its finances in the 1990s built on a variety of economic assumptions".

You have since published letters from two correspondents (August 16 and 17) applauding this proposal. Let it be clear that this council would welcome more commissions of this kind, from Government or elsewhere.

But it should be known that even with our depleted resources (aid funds from Government have been cut by 30 per cent over five years) SSRC is already funding a number of important research projects aimed at providing just such facts as you rightly call for.

SSRC has helped to set up the Technological Change Centre, and is sponsoring support to the Centre for Health Economics at York University and the Centre for Labour Economics at LSE, to name only three of a number of study centres that have valuable contributions to make to this debate. It is not "too much to ask" the SSRC to back such work (as one of your correspondents puts it) – this council has been actively seeking out and supporting good research in these areas for a long time.

With more money, of course, more could be done. Yours faithfully,
CYRIL S. SMITH, Secretary,
Social Science Research Council,
1 Temple Avenue, ECA,
August 17.

Belt-pinching

From Mr Oliver Smedley

Sir, As a former director of First Garden City Limited, the company which owned the freehold and developed the town of Letchworth in accordance with the enlightened vision of Ebenezer Howard, I was as depressed to read of the Luddite intention of the National Trust to fight any Government policy which threatened to "nibble" at the green belt as I was uplifted to read of the rejection on ecological grounds of plans to develop the Gunnersbury Triangle.

The green belt idea is out of date and fundamentally wrong in principle. What are required in cities are green centres. Without its parks, its commons, its squares, its gardens and, of course, its river, London, for instance, would be uninhabitable by civilised human beings.

The excessive pressure on the limited amount of building land caused by the green belt policy brought about the postwar tower block scandal, accompanied, of course, by enormous profits for land speculators and developers. Yours faithfully,
OLIVER SMEDLEY,
Garden Cottage,
Duck Street,
Wendens Ambro,
Saffron Walden,
Essex,
August 8.

Athletic hybrid

From Mr Tim Healey

Sir, I am sure I will not be the only correspondent to condemn the term "quadrathlon" for the proposed series of athletic endurance (report, August 19). The Latin prefix goes ill with the Greek suffix. Can *The Times* at least refer to it as a "tetra-tron"?

Yours sincerely,
TIM HEALEY,
Northfield,
Saffron Walden,
South Yorkshire,
August 19.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Soviet imperial burden to be welcomed

From Mr Correlli Barnett

Sir, Your leading articles (August 18, 19, 20) on Soviet imperialism and on the British contribution to the defence of western Europe need to be read as related essays on "total strategy" and as such I find them flawed and unbalanced.

To take the question of the Soviet Union first, of course we must accept that the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union can never rest easy while any independent centre of power or thought remains in the world to challenge their own minority domination and closed intellectual system within the Soviet Empire under the flag, and the larger imperialist sphere of control in eastern Europe.

That is inherent in the origins of the party as a conspiracy for the seizure and holding of power, in the nature of the coup d'état by which it succeeded in the first aim, and the entire process since 1917 by which it has pursued the second. But do not let us give way to an undiscriminating alarm at Soviet efforts to extend the red on the map of the world, not least by building a high sea fleet.

Such extension does not necessarily mean an enhancement of Soviet power, and may well mean strategic and economic over-extension, and hence weakness. This was clearly the case with the British Empire and British imperialism by the 1920s and 1930s when, from an inadequate power base of a stagnant and backward economy, Britain had to provide for the defence of the Empire from Europe to the Far East.

As you will know, Sir, the main theme of strategic debate within Whitehall in that era lay in the insoluble puzzle of how to defend an indefensible Empire, given the national myth that the Empire buttressed British power rather than drained it. Indeed that "pink on the

map" served as psychological compensation, a delusive mask, for Britain's true position as a second-rate economic power.

I am convinced that similar considerations apply to Soviet Russia today, perhaps even more so since the Soviet leadership is electing to carry an enormous military budget on the back of what even Andropov acknowledges is virtually a third-world economy. Let us therefore guard our vital strategic interests, while taking pleasure in the strain induced in the Soviet system by its attempts to play the role of superpower.

You do acknowledge that western Europe is indeed a Western and British vital strategic interest, but your proposals for defending it appear to have been drafted by Neville Chamberlain's ghost. Our allies are to provide the main defensive cover on land, while we enjoy the softer options of air power and sea power, coupled with a "reserve" role on land.

BAOR as a reserve held back in Germany is only one stage from being held back in Britain (which would not be unwelcome to the "blue water" school in Whitehall); a return to the BEF of 1914 and 1939, and a return also to the politically disastrous sponginess of the British commitment to European defence before 1914 and again before 1939.

The withdrawal of BAOR from a "first-day" battle-front role in Germany would surely be militarily and politically to pull away one of the essential props of the whole NATO structure. Even Neville Chamberlain had to admit in the end that the security of western Europe was the bedrock British interest.

Yours faithfully,
CORRELLI BARNETT,
Churchill College,
Cambridge,
August 20.

Dispute over Belize

From Dr Victor Bulmer-Thomas

Sir, The old story that Churchill did not know where Guatemala was, referred to by George Walden in his recent feature on Belize (August 12), must surely be incorrect; as a correspondent in Cuba during the Spanish-American War, he could not fail to have known its location. One suspects that the story is repeated so often in order to conceal the ignorance of other, less informed, journalists!

This, I fear, may be true in the case of George Walden. His interpretation of the Anglo-Guatemalan dispute over Belize (formerly British Honduras) involves several serious errors and appears to have drawn the wrong lessons from the dispute with Argentina over the Falkland Islands.

The dispute with Guatemala and the Anglo-Guatemalan Treaty of 1859 involves much more than the construction of a road. Any scholarly work on the subject (and there have been several) will confirm that the British hold on the Belize settlement was tenuous in international law and the 1859 treaty involved a substantial concession by Guatemala. The treaty was not "denounced" by Guatemala; its sequel, the 1863 convention, was not ratified by Great Britain as a result of delays on the Guatemalan side.

Nor is it fair to claim that the 1981 heads of agreement were "turned down" by Guatemala's leaders. The failure of the heads of agreement was due as much, if not

more so, to the Belizean Prime Minister's intransigence over what in retrospect were very minor concessions to Guatemala.

As long as the dispute continues, British troops will be needed in Belize. Their presence, however, should be determined not by Washington's strategic interests in Central America (as suggested by Walden), but by the possibility of an invasion from Guatemala. This should not be used as an excuse for either Great Britain or Belize for not reaching a settlement with Guatemala; despite Walden's remarks, the Belizean economy is extremely fragile and long-term, socially desirable investment is impeded by Guatemala's claims.

The disputes over both Belize and the Falkland Islands make clear that the problems will not simply "go away". In both cases, the claims of ex-Spanish colonies have been pursued irrespective of the nature of the government in power. Unlike Argentina, however, Guatemala has shown a great deal of flexibility in recent years despite the turmoil of its own internal politics.

The need, therefore, is for a swift and skilful diplomatic solution to the problem, a solution which will become more difficult if the presence of British troops is defended on grounds other than Belizean security. Yours faithfully,
VICTOR BULMER-THOMAS,
University of London,
Queen Mary College,
Mile End Road, E1,
August 15.

Body and mind

From Dr Andrew Millar

Sir, There may be substance in the articles of Ruth West and Brian Inglis, but their arguments were substantially based on erroneous and sadly misinterpreted evidence. For example, the large print on August 9, stated: "Treatment for asthma has been proved useless". This is simply untrue.

The subsequent text is less misleading and restricts its criticism to the treatment of severe (life threatening) asthmatic attacks, but nevertheless takes the clear and honest article from the *Lancet* out of context.

Open is chief witness in the curd dismissal of treatment for arthritis. Side-effects of anti-inflammatory drugs are well recognised, but the benefits far outweigh them. Open is an effective agent which generated its own popularity; the recognition of its fatal side-effects was a tribute to those who monitor prescribing, but its failure to adequately detract from the value of other drugs. I think that "needles in meridians" are unlikely to alter the course of any acute inflammatory process, but if someone can show me otherwise, and the experiment would be simple, I am ready to be convinced.

Your authors plumb the depths of the useless and often lethal conventional treatment of heart disease is and attribute this to Professor J. R. A. Mitchell's excellent review of the treatment of myocardial infarction. Mitchell did not discuss any other aspects of heart disease apart from infarction. Nowhere in his keenly critical appraisal of what we actually know did he say that conventional treatment was useless or lethal. He did point out that high technology medicine and surgical intervention had been disappointing.

Frankly either you're ill or you're not. If you're not ill, you can still feel up or down, well or not so good. People get rid of these feelings in different ways: some people cut down on drink, some take fresh air, some a change of scenery. If people wish to accomplish the same thing by seeing an acupuncturist or a homeopath, that is fine by me. But, if I get crashing heart failure, a loop of gangrenous bowel or a fractured femur, I want to see a doctor at the front door of the hospital.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW MILLAR,
Hetherston,
Benson,
Oxford,
August 15.

From Mrs Joyce Martin
Sir, How apt that on the day following the announcement of the BMA's enquiry into alternative and holistic medical fields we should hear (report, August 20) of the very happy recovery of Mr Willis's sight, resulting from what must surely be one of the simplest forms of alternative medicine [a playful blow on the head from a plastic bucket].

Yours faithfully,
J. S. MARTIN,
Hermans,
Hillwood Grove,
Huxton,
Essex,
August 20.

Grief-stricken

From Canon Roy McKay

Sir, As a fully paid up member of the Moreover Fan Club, may I express my gratitude to Miles Kingston for his article, "Good news, there's been a disaster" (August 19). It's high time that TV news took a long, hard look at its ugly habits.

Mr Kingston's suggestions for special features, *Private Funeral* and *Blood and Guts*, might well have a cathartic effect. As a milder emetic all TV news editors should be obliged to recite daily Cranmer's famous words: "From plague, pestilence, and famine; from battle and murder, and from sudden death; Good Lord deliver us."

Religion and the TV ratings

From the Director General of the Independent Broadcasting Authority

Sir, Your leader in today's edition (August 18) suggests that there had been no debate before the IBA took its decision to move part of Sunday religious programmes on ITV to 2pm. That is not the case. The pros and cons of the simultaneous scheduling of religious programming on BBC 1 and ITV has been discussed between the broadcasting authorities and the churches for many years. Even with the new arrangements, 35 minutes of religious programming will still be scheduled "back-to-back" on Sunday evenings between 6.40pm and 7.15pm.

The IBA was well aware of the departure from precedent when it decided to accept the ITV companies' proposal and therefore to decline the contrary advice of the Central Religious Advisory Committee. The IBA had recognised, however, that the 6pm placing, however attractive it might seem in theory, was not actually drawing audiences in very impressive numbers.

This might have been the result of the programmes' own content, but it was also in part the result of intense competition from the BBC. Independent television is a wholly self-financing service, bearing the present burdens of sustaining Channel 4, which is also providing religious programmes regularly. It cannot overlook the realities of its commercial situation.

The IBA has said this change in scheduling will be reviewed in the spring of next year, following further discussions with the churches. Whether the BBC chooses to alter its arrangements for the placing of its Sunday religious output is a matter for the corporation, but the licence fee does offer a measure of protection not available to the ITV companies and no doubt the BBC will have that in mind in deciding its course of action.

We know that our decision has troubled the churches, but the IBA cannot ignore a changing situation of intensifying competition. The composition of schedules is inevitably undergoing changes as audiences become increasingly free to determine schedules for themselves, having the ability to hire or record programmes.

This presents a great dilemma for the broadcasting authorities charged with protecting the public interest with, in the IBA's case, an inescapable recognition that, in particular directions is bound to be influenced by the need to ensure the companies' continuing financial viability.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WHITNEY,
Director General,
Independent Broadcasting
Authority,
70 Brompton Road, SW3,
August 18.

At risk of repetition

From the Deputy Managing Director, BBC Radio

Sir, I enjoyed reading Sir Roy Strong's light-hearted assault on Radio 4's repeat policy last Saturday (feature, August 13) and I particularly savoured his idiosyncratic extension of the term to cover both trailers and programmes that exploit our unrivalled archival resources. I would have thought it ill become a museum director to suggest that the latter should be left gathering dust. Even the V and A's basement wares get displayed from time to time – and very attractively too.

By his own confession, however, Sir Roy is a passionate devotee of Radio 4 and that is what I owe him a straight answer to the straight question. In the year 1978/79 repeats formed 20 per cent of the total network output. Five years on, in 1982/83, the figure was – 20 per cent. No dramatic increase there. Could it be all in the mind?

Of course some people may argue that 20 per cent is too much. We find, however, that more listeners who cannot be permanently glued to their sets – not even while wiring the topology – are grateful for a chance to catch up with what they have missed.

Finally, may I reassure Sir Roy about the news? Today's headlines are the stuff of tomorrow's history and this, as we all know, has a sneaky tendency to repeat itself without any help from BBC planners.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES McLELLAND,
Deputy Managing Director,
BBC Radio,
Broadcasting House, W1,
August 15.

Monster sponsor

From Mr K. C. Banks

Sir, Your leading article this morning (August 15) on the Loch Ness monster has opened my eyes to the danger that it might be taken over, or sponsored, by the polite phrase is like cricket (by cigarettes) rugby football (by insurance) the Oxford and Cambridge boat race (by bookmakers) football (by milk) and other great national games and sports.

May I suggest the answer is a short Act of Parliament which would rule Nessie Crown property, the property of the Queen of Scotland?

This would mean that the killing, capture, molesting, or even the exploitation of the monster could be treason, a crime for which the penalty is still death. Indeed, under Scottish law, it is probably more severe than that.

I am Sir, in defence of the monster.
Yours faithfully,
KENNETH BANKS,
Willow Grove,
Yalding,
Nr Maidstone, Kent.

COURT AND SOCIAL

SOCIAL NEWS

The Prince of Wales, patron, the Royal Opera House Development Appeal, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, will attend a concert to be given by Mr Plácido Domingo, in aid of the appeal, at the Festival Hall on November 7.

The Prince of Wales, Colonel Welsh Guards, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, will attend a service to dedicate a plaque to those

lived in the South Atlantic Campaign in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks on November 9.

The Prince and Princess of Wales will attend the Festival of Remembrance at the Albert Hall on November 12.

The Prince of Wales, Colonel Welsh Guards, will attend a regional Remembrance Sunday service in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, on November 13.

The Prince of Wales will visit the IBM factory at Greenock, Renfrewshire on November 23.

Forthcoming marriages

Major A. T. Condy and Mrs E. E. Blackthorn

The engagement is announced between Archie Condy, of Coleridge, Wiltshire, and Elizabeth (Betty) Blackthorn, of Quoin Cottage, Biddestone, Chippingham, Wiltshire, widow of Major B. A. Blackthorn, MC, and younger daughter of Commander and Mrs A. A. Humphreys, of Elm Lodge, Biddestone.

Mrs G. V. Favel and Miss A. C. Laird

The engagement is announced between Giles, younger son of the Rev B. J. and Mrs Favel, of Aberystwyth, South Wales, and Angela, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Jack Laird, of Scampton, Lincoln.

Marriages

Mr J. C. Bickley and Miss H. M. Perrott

The marriage took place on August 20, 1983, at St Margaret's Church, Westminster, between Mr John Charles Bickley, eldest son of Mr and Mrs F. Bickley, of Highgate, London, and Miss Hilary Margaret Perrott, only daughter of the late Mr J. A. Perrott and Mrs R. Perrott, of Chalfont, Oxfordshire.

Mr P. D. M. Ellis and Miss M. J. McLeod

A service of blessing was held on Wednesday, August 17, at All Saints' Parish Church, Wimbish, near Saffron Walden, after the marriage of Mr Peter Ellis and Miss Marie McLeod.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (not, before tax paid):

Akhmerans, Mr Francis Bonifacio Maria, of Breukelen, Holland, estate in England and Wales £1,081,462

Baldock, Mr Richard William, of North Chalfont, East Sussex £481,613

Bartlett, Mrs Constance Alice, of Folkestone, Kent £321,349

Bradford, Mrs Kathleen Winifred, of Washington, West Sussex £373,805

Collins, Sir David Charles, of Sidmouth, Devon, chairman of Westland Aircraft 1970-77 £383,332

Science report

Electronic sensor 'safer than diabetic's syringe'

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

Scientists at the Cranfield Institute of Technology and Oxford University have developed an electronic sensor which automatically records blood glucose levels.

Their goal is to link the device to a miniature insulin pump that could be implanted in diabetics as an artificial pancreas, putting an end to the unpleasant and slightly hazardous chore of daily insulin injections.

The glucose sensor is an early example of a new type of "biosensor" being developed at several research laboratories around the world. They measure concentrations of biologically important molecules directly, with a special electrode incorporating an enzyme.

The Cranfield/Oxford team uses a carbon electrode coated with the enzyme glucose oxidase. It records the flow of electrons as the glucose (the main blood sugar) is oxidized by the enzyme.

Their prototype blood sugar sensors are beginning clinical tests at Guy's Hospital, London. They are small strips, which measure glucose concentrations within 20 seconds, using just a tiny pin-prick of blood.

These first generation electronic sensors are said already to be more accurate than conventional blood glucose test kits. The latter work less directly, measuring a chemical, hydrogen peroxide, which is produced as glucose is oxidized; it reacts with a dye to

give a colour change depending on concentration.

In the August issue of the British Diabetic Association's journal *Balance*, Dr Anthony Turner, of Cranfield's Biotechnology Centre, writes that the next step would be to incorporate a continuous glucose sensor in a fine needle just below the diabetic's skin. It could give a reading of blood glucose on a watch-like monitor and sound an alarm if the levels fall too low.

Eventually the sensor would be connected to a miniature pump, controlled by a micro-computer, which would constantly feed small doses of insulin to the diabetic, just like a healthy pancreas. That should be far safer than the present practice of injecting large amounts of insulin with a syringe.

The principle used for measuring glucose can be applied to other important chemicals.

The basic reactions necessary to produce convenient sensors for lactate, cholesterol, amino acids, and glycerol have all been demonstrated, according to Dr Turner, although they have not been developed as far as the glucose strip. The range could be extended to measure hormones, such as insulin, by including antibodies in the sensor.

But practical problems remain to be overcome before biosensors become available for routine implantation. One is to avoid blood clotting and infection around the device.

Source: *Balance*, number 76, pages 4-5 (August 1983).

Dangers in the world of computer predictions

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

BRITISH ASSOCIATION



Brighton

The future of the world, nations and individuals is being determined to an increasing extent by the predictions of enormously complex mathematical models analysed on giant computers.

But there is a danger that the sheer size and complexity of those mathematical equations employed in such diverse fields as war-gaming, analysing the arms race, weather forecasting, and economic prediction may come to dominate the judgments of governments and corporations because of insufficient understanding of the limitations of computer models and of the degree of uncertainty attached to their predictions.

Those ominous-sounding observations did not come from a latter-day George Orwell, but they were made last night by Sir John Mason, FRS, in his presidential address that marked the opening of this year's annual meeting of the British Association, at Brighton.

Although sounding a cautionary note, Sir John was endorsing the spread of computer modelling. He told his audience: "As scientists, we would probably agree that major policy decisions should be based as far as possible on rational analyses of the facts and objective predictions rather than on intuitive and subjective judgments."

Mathematical models were a powerful method for those purposes. But like most powerful tools they were dangerous if used unintelligently and for the wrong job, he concluded.

Sir John, former director-general of the Meteorological Office, drew on experience of computer modelling in weather

forecasting in the contrasts and parallels he drew between those activities that were subject to that type of prediction and those that were not.

But he said: "Man has an innate requirement to predict the future course of events, including the consequences of his own actions, as part of his survival mechanism."

Even in mundane activities, such as riding a bicycle or driving a car, an individual made a rapid sequence of observations, predictions, and reactions. And that involved the use of unconscious experience. But in more complex situations experience and intuition were less likely to lead to useful long-term predictions.

Sir John said an amateur observer might successfully forecast the weather over the next few hours by watching the sky and calling on experience, but he would be quite unable to predict what would happen a few days ahead.

In economics, too, prediction by simple extrapolation of experience, the technique of the

Chartists, was an unreliable, ill-founded procedure because the past record almost never contained regular cycles of fluctu-

ations of repeated amplitude and frequency, he said. Historical records, both of the weather and the economy, were so irregular that they had little predictive power.

Sir John said it became apparent more than 20 years ago that time-honoured empirical methods, based largely on extrapolation of recent developments and the experience of the human forecasters, were unlikely to improve significantly or produce reliable forecasts for more than 24 hours ahead.

With the arrival of powerful computers, it became possible to replace those highly subjective methods by objective techniques that treated weather forecasting as a problem in mathematical physics.

That involved the building of very large and complex models which were mathematical representations of the atmosphere based on the laws that governed the birth, growth, decay, and movement of the main weather systems. The model atmosphere was divided into 15 layers between the ground and 25km (about 80,000ft), and into a network of points about 150km apart.

That computerized picture of the atmosphere was revised every 12 hours from observations made simultaneously from land stations, ships, buoys, balloons, aircraft, and satellites.

That approach had extended reliable forecasting from one day to four to five days, Sir John said.

That did not mean models were incapable of predictions two to three weeks ahead, but the uncertainties were too great to regard them as valid forecasts.

Sir John described the model-

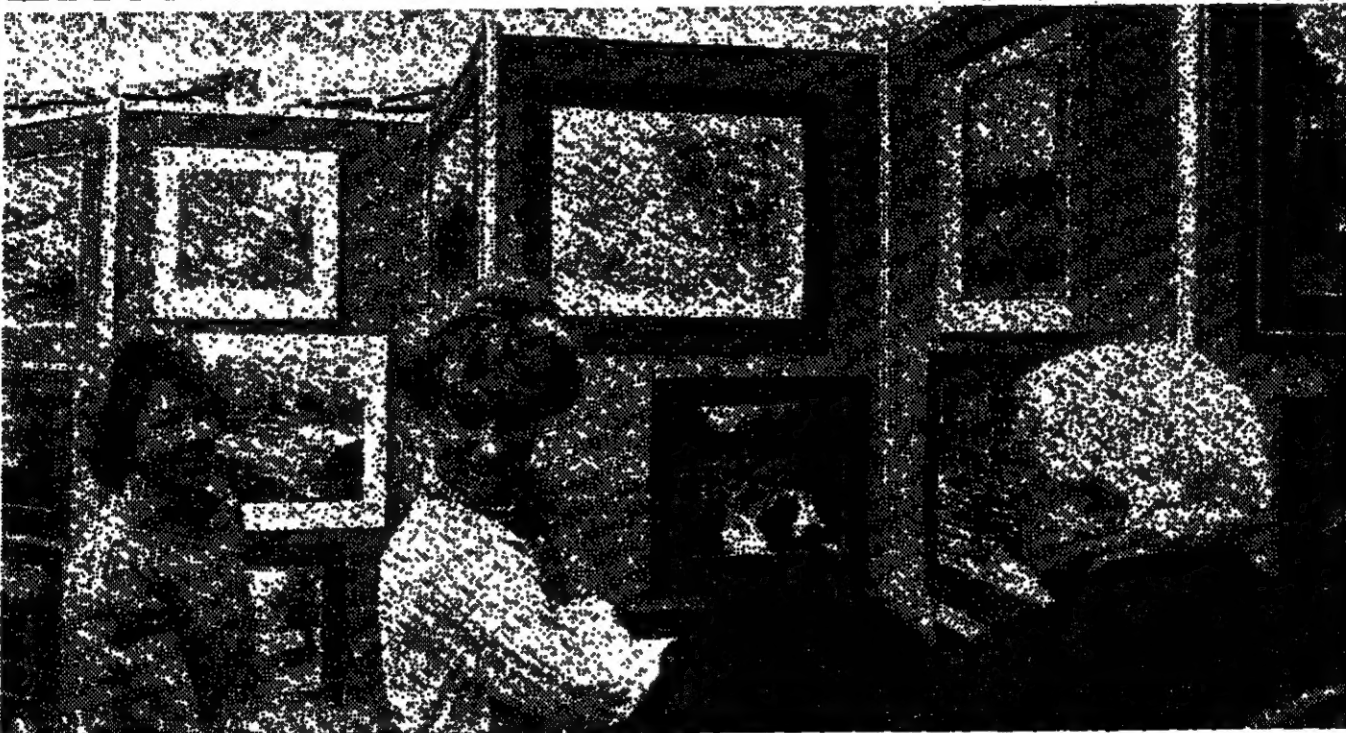
ling of economic and social systems as even more complex than making mathematical representations of the atmosphere. The boldest steps had been taken by economists who had built large complex models described by a system of hundreds of equations, as in the cases of the Treasury model and the London Business School model of the economy.

They were fundamentally different from meteorological models. There were no basic laws to guide the economist in the way that Newton's Laws of Motion and the Laws of Thermodynamics helped the meteorologist.

Since there were no universal accepted economic laws, the models were very much the work of their builders who might introduce relationships that expressed personal or political judgments. Moreover, the weather forecast has no effect on the weather, but an economic forecast might well effect the economy.

He said: "All forecasts, if they are to be credible, must be capable of verification. Weather forecasts are checked every day against the actual weather so mistakes are quickly recognized. Hence experience can be built up much more rapidly than in economics where it may take months to verify a prediction."

In the field of policy-making, models should not be used for accurate predictions for the short-term or of very long-term developments, but to indicate underlying trends in the medium term, to help to educate policymakers in the workings of the economic system, its external and internal constraints, and on what is feasible and what is inattainable.



Princess Michael of Kent opening the "Summertime" painting exhibition organized by the BBC and the Tate Gallery. During the ceremony at the gallery yesterday she presented engraved glass bowls to prizewinners, Mrs Gillian Sammers, of Oyne, Crumpton, and Mrs Florence Leader, of Reading, Berkshire (Photograph: David Cairns).

English aid for Argentine pilgrim

By Clifford Longley

Churches in central London have paid the fares and expenses of a young Argentine so that he can join a British pilgrimage to Israel, which leaves today.

They did so to honour a message of friendship to the young people of Argentina which Pope John Paul II took with him at the end of his visit to Britain last summer, at the height of the Falklands war. He passed the message on in Buenos Aires.

Nearly £4,000 was raised from Roman Catholic parishes in central London.

Woman producer to be BBC chief's aide

By a Staff Reporter

A woman has succeeded in capturing one of the BBC's most senior appointments, chief assistant to the director-general, Mr Alasdair Milne.

Miss Margaret Douglas, aged 49, who began her career with the BBC in 1951 as a secretary in radio drama bookings, takes up her post in October, succeeding Mr David Holmes, who was appointed secretary of the corporation earlier this month. She will be the first woman to hold the post and one of the very few near the top of the BBC's hierarchy.

As senior producer in BBC

television current affairs, Miss Douglas has supervised the transmission of all the party election broadcasts, edited the live coverage of party conferences and of the TUC and CBI conferences, and from mid-1960s, directed the BBC's *Panorama* programme.

She also produced many television biographies including those of Lord Butler, of Saferton, Walden, Lady Violet Bonham-Carter, and the Earl of Avon. She is now producing Ludovic Kennedy's wide-ranging interview with Mr Harold Macmillan, OM, to be transmitted on BBC1.

Birthdays today

Mr Geoff Cape, 34; Dr Carl Dolmetich, 72; Sir Arthur Forde, 83; Mr Alexander Gilmore, 52; Sir William Gorrell Barnes, 74; George Harvie-Watt, QC, 80; Sir John Hoskins, 56; Mr Gene Kelly, 71; Lord Kinnaird, 71; Mr S. Kitchen, 70; Brigadier C. A. Langley, 86; Mr James Quinn, 64; Sir John Whitbread Russell, 77; Sir Roy Strong, 48; Mr Peter Thomson, 54; Lieutenant-General R. F. Vincent, 52; Sir Brian Young, 61.

Press award

Mr Leslie Ashenbrenner, honorary chairman of the Glenamer Company of Kingston, Jamaica, publisher of *The Daily Gleaner* and other Jamaican publications, has been named by the Commonwealth Press Union as the recipient of the 1983 Astor award, its highest honour.

The award is in recognition of his work in forging closer Commonwealth ties and his vigorous defence of press freedom.

Whitehall brief

Preparing a new administrative elite

By Peter Hennessy and Andrew Ainslie

Whenever two or three Whitehall watchers are gathered together, the subject of training top civil servants arises, someone will mention "ENA", the *Ecole Nationale d'Administration* in Paris which takes young men and women in their early twenties and turns them into future technocrats, administrators, prime ministers and presidents.

The school is widely credited with producing an elite corps which helps lay the foundations of the French economic miracle in the 1950's despite the surrounding political shambles. The question is often asked: "Why cannot Whitehall have a British ENA?"

Whitehall has never wanted one. It still does not. Mr Noel Moore, principal of the civil service college, said last week: "I have visited ENA. It is a fine institution which happens to suit their educational and cultural background admirably. I am not particularly convinced it would be right to translate ENA, just as it stands to the British context."

Mr Moore believes that, taken over a full career, the British bureaucracy trains its people as well as anyone, with a spell at the college for young administration trainees, refresher and specialist courses



Mr Noel Moore

for principals and assistant secretaries blended with practical department experience throughout. Now Mr Moore is engaged in creating a new course for those passing into the magic circle, the 688-strong open structure embracing under-secretaries and above.

Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary of the Cabinet is head hunting a man to design the course and to run it in its initial year or two (the plan is to launch it in autumn 1984). Sir Frank Cooper, former Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Defence, was asked to take the job but turned it down, pleading lack of time. The shape and scope of the under-secretaries'

course will be largely left to the individual chosen as its first director: "It's all to play for," says Mr Moore.

Some guidelines, however, have been fixed. They are contained in a report produced by Mr Angus Fraser, now chairman of Customs and Excise which the management and personnel office released to *The Times* last week.

The course will last between three and four weeks rather than three months recommended by the Commons Treasury and Civil Service Committee, in a report published in March 1982.

About fifty administrators, scientists and professionals enter the under secretary grade each year. The college would need to run two or three courses a year to deal with them (at a cost of £1,000 per head per week). The Fraser Report, however, recommends that individuals from the public and private sectors attend as well, for the purpose of mutual enrichment, which would double the load to four or six courses.

Teaching would be in seminar form ("blackboard and chalk" is inappropriate for people at that level," says Mr Moore) and would be imparted by senior officials and outsiders with business experience, possibly drawing on overseas talent. The course would be residential and its members would convene away from college's beautiful Sunningdale Park near Ascot in Berkshire, which, it appears, some senior men regard as too bustling and Spartan.

Four weeks is too short to do an ENA for Whitehall's 40 year olds. Mr Fraser suggests concentrating on a unifying theme relevant to all participants like "communications in large organizations", "changing attitudes to work", "management information and resource control" or "the impact of the social and business environment upon decision taking".

The new course has a wider significance. It finally removes the question mark hanging over the future of the civil service college which appeared four years ago when Mr Margaret Thatcher began her search for manpower economies. The place is generally booming despite a requirement in force since April that departments must pay for their trainees where tuition was formerly free.

Productivity is up too. Teaching staff have remained static at about 60. But since 1980-81 courses have increased from 590 to 1000 and student days from 60,000 to 72,000.

OBITUARY

DR ERIC KANN

Quality control in textile retailing

Dr Eric Kann, who died in London on August 16, at the age of 81, was in many ways a world pioneer of quality performance standards in the retailing of garments and other textile products. His role was crucial to the world renown for science-based quality achieved by Marks and Spencer, of which he was technical and later merchandise development director until his retirement.

This pioneering work was to have a profound effect not only on the store group's relations with its supplier companies and on its competitors, but also on the whole world of textiles.

Kann was born on February 4, 1902, in Hildburghausen, Germany. He studied at Munich and Freiburg Universities, and graduated in chemistry and economics. After working for four years at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Leather Research in Dresden, in 1927 he joined the firm of Schocken at their head office in Zwickau to start a laboratory for merchandise quality testing and standards development.

Within a short time his wide organizational and analytical talents became recognized, and Salomon Schocken appointed him as his personal assistant with responsibility for some of the more difficult negotiations and investigations of his growing department store organization. By 1933 he had also been appointed director of personnel with responsibility for a staff of 5,500.

With the rising tide of anti-semitism he decided to emigrate, and tried for two years to establish himself in Holland. By then he realized that he needed to move further away from Nazi Germany and on his way to the United States via London he first made contact with Marks and Spencer. This firm had for some time been convinced that their goods must be linked with a move in the direction of standardization and quality control of merchandise, but had not been able to find anyone with the necessary qualifications. In 1935 the late Lord Marks appointed him to build up a laboratory which could give impartial advice to the textile industry as a whole, and thus was involved in that important part of the Marks and Spencer selling slogan "quality tested".

SIR FRANCIS EVANS

Sir Francis Evans, GBE, KCMG, who was Agent for the Government of Northern Ireland in Great Britain from 1962 to 1966, and had previously been Ambassador to Israel and to Argentina, died in Belfast on August 21. He was 86.

Evans was born in Belfast on April 4, 1897, and educated at the Belfast Royal Academy and the London School of Economics. He served with the Royal Irish Rifles in the First World War. In 1920 he joined the consular service, and from 1944 to 1950 was consul-general in New York.

In 1951, he went to Israel as

In 1954 Kann was appointed to the board of Marks and Spencer, the first non-family member to be so honoured. By this time his work had long become much more varied, and he was head of the merchandise development department with responsibility for much of the buying negotiations. He was instrumental in the drive to bring about a closer liaison between manufacturer and retailer, and became a respected figure in the textile industry in most part of the world. The approach to quality he pioneered subsequently became the basis of much consumer legislation, as well as being integral to the purchasing activities of the world's main retail chains.

Kann took great personal interest in the development of staff, and many of those who came under his guidance subsequently went on to achieve positions of eminence. He was a strong believer in textile education, and when there was an industry-organized collection to mark his retirement, he used the proceeds to endow the Eric Kann scholarship in textile technology administered by the Textile Institute. He gave strong support to the institute, of which he was a Fellow, and former vice-president.

After his retirement, he lived in Switzerland for many years and undertook work for the United Nations and other bodies in France, Italy, Mexico and the United States. Being a firm believer in the development of Israel, he was also convinced that it could not survive only on charity from the Diaspora, but must as rapidly as possible become self-sufficient. Apart from encouraging the planting of low-stemmed cotton he was proud to be a degree instrumental in the establishment in Israel of early plant for the manufacture of acrylic fibres, a development which had an important impact on the growth of the Israeli knitwear industry.

After his emigration from Germany he had been much involved in helping, wherever possible, some of the ever-increasing stream of refugees. He succeeded in extricating his parents and an aunt and uncle from Germany at a very late hour, and helped to support them until their death.

He is survived by his widow, Ruth, a daughter and a son.

BRIG C. C. PARKMAN

Brigadier Claude Charles Parkman, CBE, who died on August 21, at the age of 80, played a leading role in the expansion of Ward, Ashcroft, and Parkman, the Liverpool-based firm of consulting engineers which now has practices in several overseas countries. From 1975 to 1982 he served as chairman of the group board and of the British firm.

Parkman was born on May 18, 1903, and educated at the Berry School, for Boys, and Cardiff University. Having been an active Territorial in the

Royal Engineers before the Second World War, he joined up in 1939, served in France, North Africa and Italy, and became a brigadier in 1945.

In 1948 he joined the existing firm of Ward, Ashcroft as a partner. His own name was added to the company's title, and with Leslie Ashcroft he succeeded in expanding its activities from those of a provincial concern to those of an international company, with practices in, for instance, Nigeria, Portugal and East Africa.

MR GORDON GREEN

Mr Gordon Green OBE, who was General Secretary of the Fairbridge Society from 1922 to 1948, was responsible for the organized emigration of underprivileged British children to the Society's Farm Schools in Australia and Canada, died on August 9 in a Belfast hospital, at the age of 95.

Born in Ballarat, Victoria, Australia, he served in the Australian Army in the First World War, both in France and in the Middle East. From 1918 to 1922 he worked with the Y.M.C.A. in London and developed a strong belief in the importance of nurturing and protecting the rights of children. Green applied to join the staff of the Fairbridge Society after reading the words of the Founder, Kingsley Fairbridge: "The supreme test of human progress is the quality of child life and its opportunities for wholesome development, happiness and satisfaction." He was

soon appointed General Secretary and, over a period of 25 years, supervised the selection and departure to farm schools in Australia and Canada of children from London, Newcastle, Manchester and Liverpool.

During these years he was particularly successful in fundraising for the society, an activity which attracted favourable attention from all the sons of King George V, especially the Prince of Wales whose subscription headed the appeal which made possible the founding of the Prince of Wales Farm School in British Columbia in 1935. This activity brought Green into close touch with Geoffrey Dawson at *The Times*, whose interest in the work of the society was important in the period before the Second World War.

Green spent the last years of his life in rural County Down, Northern Ireland.

PROF SAN-ICHIRO MIZUSHIMA

Professor San-Ichiro Mizushima, who died in Tokyo on August 3 at the age of 84, was the leading physical chemist in Japan and for more than 30 years a major influence in Japanese science. Many of his pupils and associates at Tokyo University became known in Japan and abroad.

Mizushima's teaching focussed on molecular theories, analytically expressed. His own findings were summarized in a work published in English in 1954, *The Structure of Molecules and Internal Rotation*.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Edward Willis, BT, died on August 19 at the age of 82.

Professor Arthur Holden Naylor, who was Professor of Civil Engineering at Queen's University, Belfast, for 25 years from 1958, died on August 20, at his 86th year. Early in his career he was engaged on construction in Malaya, including the Johore causeway, and in Britain and East Africa. In 1963 he became Professor of Civil Engineering at Abubakar Belu University in Nigeria for three years.

Mr Michael Louis Bernacchi, CMC, OBE, who, after service mainly in Malaya and British North Borneo, was Resident Commissioner in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands from 1952 to 1961, died on August 20. He was 72.

Bernacchi entered the Royal Navy before joining the Colonial Service.

Jane's Fighting Ships 1983-84

Edited by Captain John Moore RN

NEW EDITION AVAILABLE NOW

Jane's Fighting Ships is the only publication that keeps you fully up-to-date with the equipment and deployment developments of the world's naval forces. It is the prime reference book for navies and governments throughout the world and is trusted by them as being the most accurate and impartial source of naval information available.

The new 1983-84 edition of Jane's Fighting Ships is packed with fully comprehensive facts and data about the world's naval vessels.

- International Survey of significant naval events
- New and additional information on Chinese equipment and operations
- Comparative fleet and equipment tables
- Ship designations and pennant list of major surface ships
- Recognition silhouettes

Stay up-to-date with Jane's Fighting Ships 1983-84. The new edition is published today at £55 per copy. Make sure of your copy now. Available through better booksellers or contact: Jane's Publishing Company Ltd., Dept. JFS, 238 City Road, London EC1Y 2PU Tel. 01-251 9281 Ext. 40

THE ARTS

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

Galleries: John Russell Taylor visits the new exhibitions

Visions of a musical maelstrom

Vienna 1900
National Museum of
Antiquities of ScotlandThe Scottish Room
Fine Art SocietyWiener Werkstätte
1903-1932

Mercury Gallery

Man and Music
Royal Scottish Museum

Though Edinburgh is a festival of the arts very much in the plural, it must be admitted that often in the past Art itself - painting and sculpture and such - has come trailing in towards the rear of the field. Of course, everyone thought it a good idea to have a few interesting exhibitions on at the same time, but their provision seemed on the whole to be left to the good sense and/or commercial instinct of the Scottish Arts Council and the major selling galleries. The results of this *ad hoc* policy were sometimes unexpectedly pleasing, in a vague, scattered sort of way, but it feels like a very long time indeed since the really eye-opening exhibitions which were a great feature of the festival in the Fifties and early Sixties, when we had the definitive Impressionist and Post-Impressionist retrospectives, major tributes to more modern artists like Epstein and unforgettable one-off shows like the 1954 Diaghilev Exhibition.

This year there has clearly been a deliberate attempt to restore that particular tradition, by again putting exhibitions at the very centre of the festival's planning. The principal theme

running through the opera, the concert and even the drama is Vienna at the turn of the century. And, binding it together visually and spiritually, is the show Vienna 1900, in the National Museum of Antiquities' quite newly acquired and little used York Buildings, across the road from the main building, until September 25.

One might hope, from the prominent positioning of the show, that it would be physically a large one. Undoubtedly there is a slight feeling of disappointment to find that it is not only four rooms seem very little to evoke a city, a way of life, an atmosphere and a very rich and productive art. But, given this slight caveat, it must be said that Peter Vergo has done a splendid job in putting together this collection of beautiful, suggestive and invariably choice objects. Quite a number of them will be familiar already to those who have had occasion to keep an eye on the London art market in the last two or three years - as grateful acknowledgments in such specialists as Fischer Fine Art,

the Piccadilly Gallery and Whitford and Hughes make clear. But even in the selection of things borrowed from London collections there are surprises: if we wonder why we have never seen at the Victoria and Albert Museum its splendid Kilo Moser secrétaire of 1903, the answer is that it here receives the first public showing since it was acquired.

And many of the borrowings, from as far afield as Los Angeles, are going to be entirely unfamiliar to nearly all visitors. The collection of paintings by Schoenberg, for instance. Though many are faintly aware that Schoenberg, the friend and associate of painters, painted himself and designed settings for his stage works, it has not been easy to see the results of this activity, even in Los Angeles where Schoenberg ended his life. But now we have his portraits of friends such as Berg and Zemlinaky, designs for *Erwartung* and several of his strange, spectral heads, emerging like ecstasies from smoky indeterminate backgrounds. True, these remain the spare-time occupation of a man whose real work lay elsewhere. But, even in close comparison with Schiele's portraits of Schoenberg and Webern, they do retain a curious and quite personal quality - you would know at once that they are not by nobody.

The show is admirably conceived in another way: its introductory section does give a very clear idea of the Vienna into which the young revolutionaries of the Secession and the movements which followed it, up to the Blue Rider in 1914, burst so dramatically and which continued, though we tend to forget it, to flourish very happily up to the First World War as though the most important Strauss around was still Johann the Younger. Indeed, despite the sensation of *Salome*, which seemed for a

moment to ally Richard Strauss with the Decadent strain in art, there is little in his music, apart from a touch of over-ripe, to recall the first Decadent atmosphere, and the set designs here for the first production of *Rosenkavalier*, like the Wagner designs of the same artist, Alfred Roller, have scarcely a hint of any avant garde about them.

Clearly artistic Vienna at this time was a small world where everyone knew (though not necessarily approved of) everyone else, and yet these amazing contrasts could still continue to exist. Klimt and Schiele and Kokoschka could live quite successfully in a world where many still thought of Mahler as the height of daring modernity and fine artistic taste. If we can carry back to the music and the theatre insights like this, so freshly offered by the Vienna 1900 show, then during the course of the festival proper we shall be enriched indeed.

Those in search of further enlightenment should not fail to collect also two small but fascinating related shows. The Fine Art Society has, for the occasion, chosen to emphasize the Scottish connection by reconstructing the Scottish Room devised by Mackintosh and his associates for the eighth Vienna Secession exhibition in 1900. This, also open until September 25, comes as close as is now possible (there have had, inevitably, to be some substitutions) to conveying to us the dazzling effect this exhibit had on Vienna and the whole of central Europe - one which was to influence radically the later development of the Art Nouveau/Decadent movement, away from generous curves and towards rectilinear austerity. At the Mercury Gallery the show of applied arts from the Wiener Werkstätte 1903-1932 (until September 18) fills in the details and illustrates the hats on the road from 1900 to the elegant



Vienna 1900: Arnold Schoenberg by Richard Gerstl; and Gustav Klimt's poster - before censorship - for the first Secession exhibition, 1896

local forms of Art Deco, with the Mackintosh influence everywhere evident.

The other major festival show also draws our attention, to the links between the visual arts and music. Man and Music, at the Royal Scottish Museum until January 15, at once makes clear the extraordinary riches of the museum's own collection of non-European musical instruments, turns our attention to them as beautiful objects in their own right and then, before we can stop for breath, reminds us that, however beautiful we may think them as sculptural exhibits in a museum case, that is only incidental to their real intention, the making of musical sound. The deviser of the exhibition, and in many cases collector of the exhibits, Jean

Jenkins, has also devised a superior example of the suspect audio-visual, which does for once provide an extra dimension by not only letting us know how the instruments sound but also showing us very clearly how they are played, by whom and in what circumstances.

In addition, during the festival, until September 3, there will be a series of concerts in the Museum Lecture Theatre given by original groups of folk and street musicians from all over the world, making the show even more vivid and immediate. Is it for the musically or the visually oriented? Finally, and very satisfactorily, it is for both. Just as the whole festival should be, and this year probably will be, I shall be writing about Edinburgh's further visual delights later.

First concert: Paul Griffiths
Impact confinedPhilharmonia/Davis
Usher Hall/Radio 3/
BBC2

The Edinburgh Festival lost little time in getting down to its "Vienna 1900" theme. At Sunday night's opening concert, after quite the punchiest account of the National Anthem I have ever heard, Andrew Davis opened a score that more than any other conveys the atmosphere of hysteria and frustration, decadence and catastrophe, which seems to have swirled in every thinking mind as the Habsburg capital moved precariously into the new century: Berg's *Three Orchestral Pieces*.

This must be about the most complex score generally regarded as serious, with anything up to a dozen utterly different things happening at once, and Mr Davis's firm grasp was useful in keeping it all together. Keeping it on the brink of an ever-threatening collapse. But the complexity is more than just textual. In this set of pieces there is at least enough material for two operas, indeed for the two that Berg went on to write, but here the music did not appear so very saturated with expressive fervour and musical idiosyncrasy.

Mr Davis was certainly alive to what was going on upon the most generous scale, bringing out the Prelude's build to a climax and dissolve, or the March's steady mount in ferocity right up to a mortally painful scream from the trum-

pets. He found no room, however, to colour much of the incidental detail, and any first-time listener might well not have noticed that the central "Reigen" is as full as *Lulu* of corrupt, seductive sensuousness.

It was unfortunate, too, that the television lighting should have missed and spoilt Berg's marvellous near-silences, which are as essential as his hollow bombasts, when the wretched box was not even taking the first half of the concert.

Television viewers joined us for the "Choral" Symphony, a favourite at this festival and a work seemingly more to Edinburgh taste than the Berg, although one might think Beethoven was challenging the Vienna of his day quite as outrageously.

Again, Mr Davis rather dimmed the impact by the bigness of his approach. In the first movement he gave all his attention to sternly marking out the string music, so that the woodwind chorus kept coming forward and finding itself embarrassed by having nothing to say. There was also a very decisive beat in the scherzo and even in the slow movement, after which the finale was just as noisy and military as one had expected.

Still, there were some nice contrasts among the soloists: a fiery Linda Esther Gray and a stable Carolyn Watkinson, a feeling John Mitchinson with an authoritative Robert Lloyd. And the Edinburgh Festival Chorus was huge and vociferous.

Theatre: Irving Wardle reviews Glasgow Citizens' opening production

The Last Days of
Mankind
Assembly Hall

Vienna is the central matter at Edinburgh this year, and, doing nothing by halves, the Festival announces its theme with two Beethovenian thunderclaps, the "Choral" Symphony and Karl Kraus's less apocalyptic ode to ruin.

Kraus is an ideal candidate for festival treatment: virtually unknown over here, a potent figure in modern Austrian culture, and the author of one gigantic drama that relates as challengingly to mass media as it did to journalism under the Kaiser. Through his long-lived magazine, *The Torch*, he is remembered above all as a defender of language against

interference, concerned with free expression no less than with the illiteracy of the opinion-formers. For Kraus, the decline of the West began with the written word. As his *Last Days*: "We were crippled by the rotary press before we fell victim to the cannon."

Last Days is a vast, plotless montage of Austrian society at war, moving between the front line and the home front in a succession of tragicomic vignettes that accelerate into a dance of death. Given the ferocity of the satire you think of Swift, except that in this case the material is of documentary origin. The only continuous characters, apart from Kraus himself, are journalists; and whatever the attacks on big business and the military, clerical and medical professions, his main target is always the press.

Robert David McDonald, translator and director of this Glasgow Citizens' production, has built this fact into the stage picture. Instead of Kraus's endless changes of scene, he sets the entire piece in a sumptuous Ringstrasse restaurant (a stunning walkdown set by Terry Bartlett) where battlefields, hospitals and imperial audiences come and go under the eyes of the diners. Not that they are looking. They are immersed in their newspapers, and the dominant image of the four-hour evening is of a forest of arms going up, fingers snapping for the next edition.

The drawback of this scheme is that it fails to deliver the expected contrast between what happens and what the papers say about it. For this, Kraus is partly to blame, as he uses journalism as a direct source of information as well as a satirical target.

On the Assembly Hall stage, the unhappy effect is on Kraus himself. Played by Giles Haverall in the likeness of a hawk-faced family solicitor, he sits impassively at his table throughout the evening, superciliously detaching himself from newspaper to deliver crushing judgments on the passing scene: a Diogenes of the fleshpots who invariably awards himself the winning argument. I admire the theatricality of the translation, however much it misses of Kraus's use of dialect and literary wordplay, but in the case of Kraus's own lines there is not much trace of the brilliantly corrosive aphorism.

Whatever the drawbacks of the setting, it develops tremendous life as a stage metaphor: a place of privileged retreat, gradually engulfed by external disaster, as the waltzes harden into

Marchtime, shellfire moves closer and Kraus at last pays his bill and delivers Horatio's epitaph to a cork-strewn floor. By this time, it really has become the restaurant at the end of the universe.

Individual scenes are beautifully slotted in to make their own points and mark the stages of general disintegration. "No meat!" roars Robin Hooper's bullet-headed diner. "Well, General," explains the waiter (John Breck), "there's a war on." The young company sometimes strive too hard for a grotesque style with nonsense jabber and strenuous grimacing, but the doubling of the huge cast-list is successful as well as courageous. Performances like Jane Berth's governor's war correspondence and Laurence Rudi's hysterically enraged factory-owner are spellbinding by any standards.

Marchtime, shellfire moves closer and Kraus at last pays his bill and delivers Horatio's epitaph to a cork-strewn floor. By this time, it really has become the restaurant at the end of the universe.

Individual scenes are beautifully slotted in to make their own points and mark the stages of general disintegration. "No meat!" roars Robin Hooper's bullet-headed diner. "Well, General," explains the waiter (John Breck), "there's a war on." The young company sometimes strive too hard for a grotesque style with nonsense jabber and strenuous grimacing, but the doubling of the huge cast-list is successful as well as courageous. Performances like Jane Berth's governor's war correspondence and Laurence Rudi's hysterically enraged factory-owner are spellbinding by any standards.

Three Choirs Festival

All a matter of extended effects

The 256th meeting of the Three Choirs of Gloucester, Hereford and Worcester began in St Catharine's Church, Wotton Pitch, Gloucester, with a single voice. April Cantelo was the soloist in the first complete performance of a Symphony by Elis Pehkonen which began life at the Stroud Festival in 1981 and, for its last three movements, was commissioned by Gloucester Three Choirs Festival.

The soprano's unaccompanied "Tota Pulchra est Maria" sets in motion a massive four-part survey, more suite than symphony, of the Christian year: annunciation, nativity, crucifixion and pentecost, with the last a set of double variations and extended coda. It is, indeed, all very extended: lasting well over an hour, the language is richly romantic to

the point of satiety (Mr Pehkonen says his music is now "renovative" rather than "innovative"); the scoring makes much use, wherever it can, of brass, pitched percussion and harp, and the Latin text is stretched to the very limits of both the performer's stamina and the listener's patience.

The work is conscientiously enough written; but there is simply not enough to be said, and the ear soon becomes numb as matter is quickly drowned in manner. The Gloucestershire Youth Orchestra, conducted by Mark Foster, rose splendidly to the occasion - if only it had been more worthwhile rising to - after showing off their suppleness and integrated strings and fine brass soloists in music by Berlioz and Mendelssohn.

Sunday evening's musical act of worship began in the cathedral with prayers and a suitably grave and still performance of the Prelude to *Parsifal* by the Royal Philharmonia Orchestra conducted by Sir Charles Groves. John Scott joined them as soloist for the new work as the centre, a Concerto for organ, strings and percussion by Charles Camilleri. Conventional in form and substance, the music arrests by sheer force, with its grinding ritual string chords, its virtuosic timpani solos and clamorously testing organ part, bouncing off the Norman pillars and rolling down the aisles.

In the outer movements there are, if anything, simply too many unsubordinated notes, getting clogged and tangled up in each other, something even Sir Charles's incisive and

rigorous reading and Mr Scott's magnificent playing could do little about. In the middle, as if to compensate, there is a meditation upon space, where organ and pitched percussion contribute little mantra-like figures over high sustained string chords. The total effect was one of effect alone.

It would have been worth buying a ticket, though, for the last part of the concert alone. Here the festival at last came into its own, bringing back a work too long neglected. Vaughan Williams's inspired, constantly live and beguiling "masque for dancing", *Job*. Sir Charles and the RPO brought colour, rhythmic muscle and dignity to this musical recreation of Blake's engravings.

Hilary Finch

Music and dance
in VenezuelaA staging
post for
British
companiesProscenium curtain design
by Jesús Soto for the Teresa
Carreño theatre

What could be a significant new touring location in South America for major companies from Britain, whether opera, dance or drama, was opened earlier this year in the Venezuelan capital, Caracas. The Teresa Carreño theatre and arts centre, on a midtown site overlooking a park of mahogany trees, has just come into its own as the focal point for celebrating the bicentenary of Simon Bolívar, "el Libertador" of Venezuela and a native of Caracas.

Britain's interest was reflected in a two-week visit by London Festival Ballet and a major exhibition of the works of Henry Moore. Both were sent through the British Council's support and financial support (in addition to Venezuelan and other sponsorship by British business interests there), and both drew wide spread public interest, saw the company becoming the first to test the new theatre's full resources.

Dr Salvador Iriago, director-general of the Teresa Carreño Foundation which manages the theatre, and an anglophile of wide cultural interest, saw London Festival Ballet's visit as the harbinger of others from Britain at intervals of a few years. He hoped these might include the Royal Ballet, and perhaps the Royal Opera. The National Theatre was also invited to send a company from London this year but arrangements could not be made; Dr Iriago would like to think this is only a postponement.

The theatre has a seating capacity of some 2,300, and a stage 30 metres wide and the same high, comparable in proportion to the Metropolitan at New York's Lincoln Center, although there are one-third fewer seats in the Caracas auditorium. The centre, as a whole incorporates a small 400-seat theatre and a separate large studio for rehearsals and ballet classes, while the main theatre is also convertible for concert use with an open platform.

It is named after Venezuela's leading nineteenth-century musician, who died in 1917. Teresa Carreño not only had a successful international career as a pianist (she was a student of Anton Rubinstein, among others), but combined with this the talents of composer, conductor and opera singer, as well as running her own opera company for a time. Three of her four husbands were musicians of comparable distinction: the violinist Emilio Sauret, the baritone Giovanni Tagliaferri and the composer Eugen d'Albert.

The Teresa Carreño theatre is no more appealing from a distance than the National Theatre in London, and with a similar angular bulk, but it becomes more impressive on closer acquaintance. "Inside" is hardly the word for foyers which are protected from the park but open at the side to the above, beyond, their bareness made more striking by thousands of vertical tubes, extruded plastic in ivory and yellow, hanging in

clusters from the ceilings like stalactites.

Their design is the work of Jesús Soto, a distinguished Venezuelan artist who has similarly embellished other large buildings in France, Germany and South Africa. His *escrituras*, patterns of abstract lines "written" on a symmetrical background, are the source for his transverse proscenium curtains in the theatre itself, on which black curves and angles are superimposed on vertical bars of black and white.

The overall shape of the auditorium and stage area forms a hexagon, with the seats fanned out widely in three segments on a raked floor, but set squarely in a single upper gallery. Some front stalls have seriously restricted sightlines at the side extremes, a strange miscalculation, but the orchestral acoustics are clear and direct and, on the evidence of the single opera performance I heard (Rossini's *L'italiana in Algeri*), capable of expressive vocal balance.

Not all was as finished backstage as the front of house suggested. The lighting lacked colour-coding, requiring lengthy trial and error to match switch to light; a sprung ballet stage, which can replace that for opera and concerts, started to tilt when the Frigero was for Rudolf Nureyev's *Romeo and Juliet* were first built on it; dressed-rooms in place of mirror-lights; and a system of bells and runners had to link

dancers to the stage for lack of the usual communications.

With goodwill on both sides these problems were adequately overcome for Festival Ballet's first-night gala on Venezuela's national day, at which President Herrera Campesino made a delayed arrival a full hour late, while audience and performers alike were kept waiting (and the *Romeo and Juliet* performance took all the first act to recover).

A resident ballet company is already formed and working under the direction of the Cuban-born Enrique Martínez, former ballet-master of American Ballet Theatre, whose plans for next season include a new three-act *Miguel de Mañara*, with Albéniz music arranged by John Lanchbery. The nucleus of an opera company is also evident, and a planned April-July season includes *Madama Butterfly*, *Figaro*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Il trovatore* and a new opera, *Chao Gil*, by the Venezuelan composer Juan Carlos Nuñez.

An Anglo-Venezuelan cultural agreement, painstakingly piloted by John Mallon, the British Council's representative in Caracas and the embassy's cultural attaché, is on the point of signature. It will help to bring about more frequent exchanges, especially in the performing arts; by offering an alternative to the Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, the Teresa Carreño Theatre in Caracas could have increasing importance for Britain's arts exports.

Noel Goodwin

Rock
Status enhancedZZ Top
Castle Donington

Hard rock bands are not generally noted for their wit or fashion sense but ZZ Top, the ultimate power trio from Houston, Texas, are an exception. As befits their name they have perfected an act which is the last word in its particular field.

While the majority of the acts at Castle Donington's annual Monsters of Rock festival were content to grimace and grunt through the usual heavy metal clichés, ZZ Top's Billy Gibbons, Dusty Hill and Frank Beard came to unleash a different form of entertainment. By the end of the afternoon even the hardened corps of leather and denim-clad rockers were laughing in appreciation.

ZZ Top are a sight for sore eyes; they are smartly clad in pastels, absurd pink guitars and extravagantly styled beards, which is not to say that they are hell-bent on pastiche; they are all excellent musicians with a

total command of the blues-based Texas boogie tradition. Gibbons, the lead guitarist and singer, keeps his troops on the right side of understatement, ensuring that they deliver songs rather than endless riffs. And what songs they are.

In numbers like "Party on the Piano", "Cheap Sunglasses" and "Pearl Necklace" ZZ Top maintain the tradition of glorifying Americana while simultaneously deflating their countrymen's acquisitive excesses. The heavy metal hordes appreciated the group's leigher material, and the sound of sixty thousand people singing the refrain to "I'm Bad, I'm Nationwide" threatened to drown the roar of overhead planes from the nearby airport.

This was probably the first time most of the crowd had witnessed ZZ Top, but I have a feeling that, by the time they return to headline an autumn tour, their cult status in England will have been replaced by something much more substantial.

Max Bell

Harrie Peeters, a bass from the Netherlands, has won first prize in the second International Belvedere Competition for Opera Singers organized by the Wiener Kammeroper. Second prize went to Angela Denning (soprano, Australia) and third was divided between Ulrike FINDER (mezzo, Austria), Johann-Werner Prein (bass, Austria) and Anton Scharinger (baritone, Austria).

The performance of *Adriana Lecouvreur* scheduled for the Barbican Hall on September 14 has been postponed due to difficulties in casting the tenor role of Maurizio.

The GLC Presents
PARSIFAL
At the
Royal Festival Hall

A film by
Hans Jürgen Syberberg
starring
Reiner Goldberg
as Parsifal.
30 August 1983 at 6pm
Admission £2.50
Box office: 01-926 3191

GLC

Robert Scott Lauder's
MASTER CLASS
Famous 19th Century Scottish
paintings by McEggar,
Orchardson, Pettie and their
Edinburgh contemporaries.
NATIONAL GALLERY,
The Mound, Edinburgh
(031) 556 8921
15 July-2 October
10-17 Mon-Sat; 14-17 Sun
(10-18, 11-18 Aug 21-Sep 11)

"DON'T MISS MY
MASTER CLASS!"



ADMISSION FREE

What Micro?

The Electron is bound to be compared to the BBC Micro. However it would be better compared to other micros in its price range, the likes of the Spectrum, Oric and Vic 20. There is however no real comparison as the Electron wins on all counts—it has better graphics, a better keyboard, faster and more versatile Basic. We rate the Electron higher than any of its competition. Acorn had better be ready for a rush, there's going to be one.

What Micro? Sept. '83

This micro.



Actual size.

Today, Acorn Computers unveil their new home microcomputer, called the Electron.

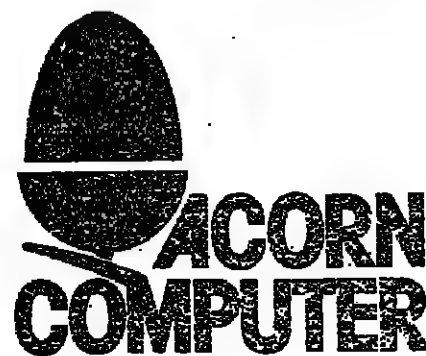
And, as you can see, it has already met with critical acclaim in its first independent review from one of Britain's leading computer publications.

This comes as no surprise as Acorn also produce the only other Micro that uses BBC Basic. (This machine is already being selected by over 80% of U.K. Schools under the current Department of Industry scheme.)

You can judge for yourself just how good the £199 Electron is by visiting the Acorn User Show at the Cunard Hotel, Hammersmith, London from August 25th-28th.

We've every confidence that you and "What Micro?" will be in complete agreement.

Acorn Computers Limited, Fulbourn Road,
Cherry Hinton, Cambridge CB1 4JN.



Massive new 'banks' deal

THE WEEK by Roger Woolnough

Changes in the banking community, and the opportunities these open up for more automation, have caused two major US computer companies to form joint ventures with third parties to secure their positions in financial markets.

Burroughs Corporation has signed a £21m joint development and manufacturing agreement with Fortronic, the Scottish company which has specialized in banking and financial computer terminals. Simultaneously, Sperry Corporation announced it is to market the new Ericsson System 2100 branch automation system for financial institutions.

Of the two, the Burroughs-Fortronic deal is the more intriguing. The US company has been serving the financial markets since the end of the last century, and had a turnover in 1982 of \$4.2bn. Fortronic was established only in 1970, and is a minor by comparison. What does it have to offer the US giant?

"The facts of life are you can't do everything," says Bob King, managing director of Burroughs Machines Ltd, the UK subsidiary. "What we are trying to do here is bring the special skills of two groups of people together."

Key to the agreement is Fortronic's development of an intelligent integrated terminal which sits on the bank counter. Burroughs' approach has been to provide modular terminals, which allow users to build up a range of functions as they need them. Both philosophies are valid, but Burroughs' lack of an integrated terminal of its own left a gap in its product line.

"In certain markets, particularly Europe, there is a big demand for an integrated unit and that is exactly what Fortronic has," explained Clive Bartram of Burroughs. "We are continuing to develop our own modular-type terminals."

Burroughs and Fortronic are not strangers. Since 1981 the two companies have had a marketing agreement on

financial terminals covering Europe and Africa. This has resulted in orders approaching £10m, about 78 per cent exports. But the new deal ranges much wider.

It falls into three parts. Under the first, Burroughs is providing Fortronic with £1m to fund design and development of a new generation of intelligent integrated terminals. Ideas and resources will be pooled by engineers from Scotland, England, France, Switzerland and America.

Then, over the next three years, Burroughs will take delivery of at least 15,000 terminals made at the new Fortronic factory near Dunfermline. This contract is worth at least £20m.

Finally, there will be continuing collaboration to keep pace with market changes and competition.

Under the deal between Sperry and Ericsson Information Systems of Stockholm, the Swedish company's branch automation system is to be marketed by Sperry as the UFTS 600 in most European countries, Canada, South Africa and South East Asia.

Unlike Fortronic, Ericsson has not taken an integrated approach. The UFTS 600 provides different modules on the bank counter to handle such tasks as customer transactions, computing, communications, passbook printing, and note dispensing.

One thing that all parties are agreed on is that the banking business is changing fast. Sperry says that banks are increasingly subjected to competition, not only from other banks, but also from non-banking institutions.

Burroughs's Clive Bartram points out that in America today, Sears Roebuck offers a full range of financial services including access to cash via automated teller machines. "In tomorrow's world, what will be a bank?" he asks. "It may well be a department store."

That can only be good for the

automation suppliers, who are already facing a boom in any case. During 1984 to 1986, Burroughs estimates, the worldwide cashless terminal market will absorb 547,000 units - and that excludes any newcomers to the money game.

A VENTURE which links the travel trade, a young computer company and British Telecom is about to market a hardware and software package which is designed to be equally suitable for the smallest and the largest of travel agents.

Behind the move is Tourism Technology Ltd, which is jointly owned by Future Technology Systems Ltd (FTS), the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA), and the Travel Agents' Consortium for Information Technology (TACIT). Together they have developed a system which exploits the multi-functional and communications capabilities of the FTS microcomputer. This allows travel agents to use a single piece of equipment for televiewdata, bookings with tour operators, communications direct to airlines, data processing and word processing.

Now Tourism Technology has appointed Merita, the British Telecom business products operation, to market the system exclusively in the UK. Over two years, the contract will be worth £5m to FTS and £2m to Tourism Technology.

"This is probably the first time that any trade association such as ABTA has worked so closely with a manufacturer to bring a product which is tailored to its members' needs," says FTS managing director Peter McHugh. "More important, the trade association - and therefore its members - benefit commercially."

McHugh estimates the potential size of the UK market at 10,000 systems with a minimum price of £5,000. This is based on 5,000 ABTA members, with an average of three systems per user. On top of that there are 3,000 non-ABTA travel agents who are likely purchasers.

JOB SCENE

Status under attack

By Richard Sharpe

Now that so many non-technical personnel are using computer systems the status of computer professionals is under attack. But changes of status will be fiercely resisted.

In the first place special rates of pay for computer staff are becoming rare as they are merged into general clerical and technical grades.

Second, job turnover has begun to come down, making staff that fit from employer to employer no longer a valued asset; they are now being judged in the same way as other staff with a patchy employment record.

Third, the role of contractors has been firmly established, weakening the subtle blackmail that highly technical personnel in computer departments have used as a weapon to further their careers.

Status has, however, always been a moveable feast in the computer industry. At the beginning, when pioneering systems were built from valve technology and the applications were scientific and technical, programming had low status. Designing the system and keeping it running, held the glory while the job programming was mostly performed by women.

Once men designers realised that programming was half the job of getting new technology working they muscled into the role, turned programming almost into a black art.

Status is often linked to skill in the computer community; it does not always come from the individual's position in the managerial pecking order.

However, while computer hardware is more and more compact and runs faster and faster, full computer systems, the complex combination of hardware and software, do not have the same radical advances in performance. A lot of the speed of the machine is often absorbed by more complex software, written by skilled employees. As a result the highly skilled can seem to be a bottleneck, an impediment to further productivity increases.

The more non-technical personnel use computers, the less need there seems to be, at least on the surface, for the skilled people. All is, however, far from lost for the status conscious computer professional.

Many have realized that the job of educating the new wave of users is so vital that it gives them extra leverage, and therefore status, as they fan out over organizations carrying the word of the coming of the micro computer.

People/Ronald Young of Systematics

Alan Howard



From Tudor to future

Ronald Young lives in the past, the present and the future, all at the same time. His company, the Systematics International Group, occupies a Tudor manor house in the Suffolk town of Haverhill, reputedly given to Anne of Cleves by Henry VIII. "I love Tudor manor houses," says Young, who lives in one.

That takes care of the past. The present is the booming world of microcomputers, for which Systematics supplies a range of packaged business software.

And the future? "We very much believe that the technologies of video, computing and telecommunications will converge," Young says. "We are even thinking of buying a satellite dish."

Originally, Ronald Young was articled to a chartered accountant, but the weekly regime of five nights studying on a £5 pay-packet drove him to banking, where he developed it to a princely £12.

In 1966 he switched to programming. After working for a number of user companies, he had the chance to set up a computing services company with a firm of management consultants. A little later, this company acquired a computer bureau specializing in services for manufacturers of agricultural machinery. He developed it to a profitable, if fairly modest, concern. Then the microcomputer arrived.

"I was quite happy with a bureau which was specialised, profitable, and giving us all a

satisfying way of life," Young recalls. "The micro shook us up. The company now makes more profit in one month than it did in a year."

This transition was not achieved easily. In 1980, after five years of profits, Systematics invested heavily in developing a range of business software for microcomputers. It was December 1982 before substantial profits returned, but the investment has paid off.

Young ticks off progress: 2500 software packages sold in 1981, 6400 in 1982, "and we expect to sell well over 10,000 packages this year". From breaking even in 1982, he expects profits of £400,000-plus this year, and is looking for £1m next.

But he sees many changes ahead in software, and Systematics continues to invest heavily in development.

"Some companies take the view that as computers become bigger, they should produce bigger programmes," he says. "We believe we should employ this greater power so that users

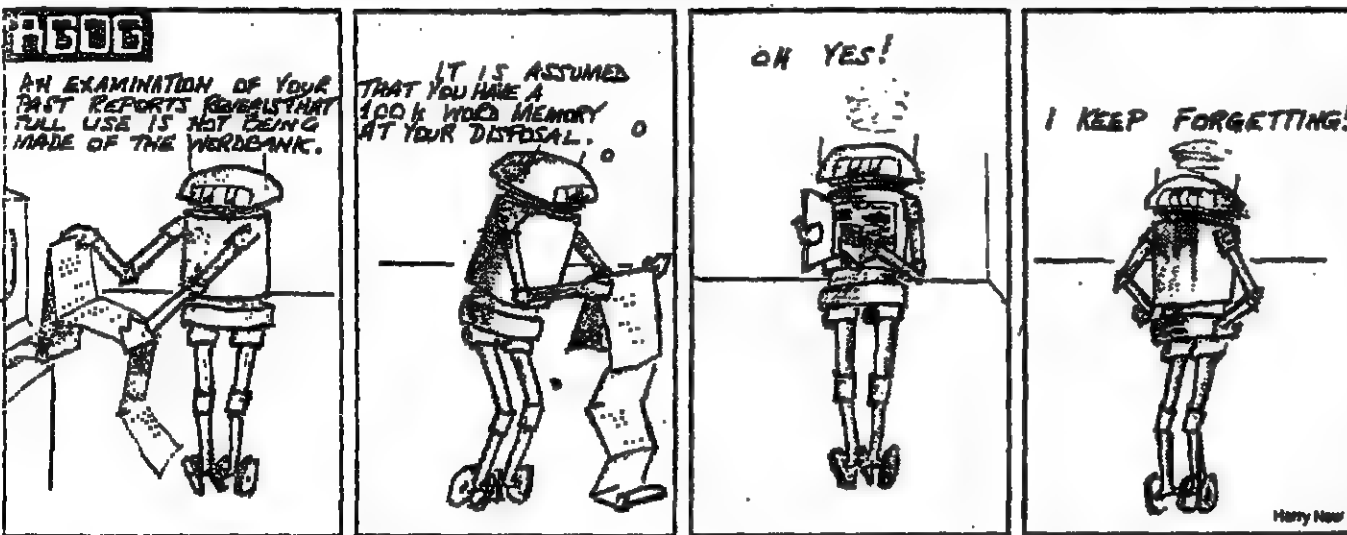
can do the same jobs far more easily."

This emphasis on user-friendliness shows up in several ways. Systematics had an early preview of the Apple Lisa, the micro which took a major step towards simplifying computer use. "We are developing business software for Lisa which will exploit its visual techniques," says Young.

Video is another tool. Already Systematics is putting business programs on videocassettes for training purposes, and Young looks forward to the possibilities offered by the interactive video disk. "We are also trying to eliminate the need for manuals," he adds.

But as much as anything, it is the coming convergence of video, computing and telecoms which intrigues him. "They will all come together into a single information technology very soon. As an organisation specialising in software, we must have an increasing awareness and involvement in all of them."

RW



Computer Appointments

MARKETING CONSULTANTS

As a young, growth minded company, involved in consulting on high technology computer related products, we are seeking a number of additional marketing consultants to join our professional team.

Based in Ascot, candidates will be responsible for initiating, developing and conducting market research projects covering key developments in the computer industry.

Applicants should be well educated, with experience in marketing and/or market research. This will preferably have been gained within the computer industry. A knowledge of statistical analysis along with excellent communication skills, both oral and written, are essential.

The ability to work on initiative and willingness to travel are a requirement. Excellent salary, 4 weeks holiday and scope for rapid advancement will be offered to the right candidates. For further information, please Ascot (0990) 23377.

(No Agencies please)

Finding the jobs

COMPUTER BRIEFING

"On your bike" is being superseded by electronics: jobcentres throughout the country are being linked through a computer-based system, so that details of vacancies can be transmitted quickly throughout the network, writes Roger Woolnough.

Last week work began on the seventh and final stage of the project when the first of 150 Jobcentres throughout south-east England was connected to a Perkin-Elmer 3230 supermini-computer in Basingstoke. By November, all the south-east's Jobcentres will be linked electronically to virtually every other Jobcentre in the country.

Known as the Vacancy Circulation and Statistics (VACS) system, it has been introduced over the last five years by the Manpower Services Commission in conjunction with Perkin-Elmer Data Systems. At first, Jobcentres with VACS could communicate only within their own region, but all seven regional computers and development machines in Sheffield are now being linked over the PENNET networking system.

When the system is complete, about 750 of the 1000 Jobcentres throughout the country will be able to communicate over British Telecom's packet-switching service.

"This improves our standard of service to potential employees and employers alike, while helping to contain our administrative costs," says John Taylor, head of the MSC's employment service Computer Development Branch.

Business game Engineers, often criticized as being poor managers, will have a chance to prove themselves by joining a business game run on computers. The game, called TEMEWORK (The Engineering Management Exercise), is being sponsored by the Engineering Council, Astridge Management College and The Engineer magazine. The Department of Trade and Industry has made a software development grant.

The game begins in October, with teams from industry competing against each other and the

game's controller to win £2,000. The organizers claim that unlike other business games, this one deals with the interrelated concepts of design, finance, production and marketing. Those taking part will have to work under pressure in a realistic situation.

Teams will compete using home computers, and software will be supplied on cassettes for a variety of popular machines. A computer is not essential, but the various tasks will take longer without one. "Here again," say the organizers, "the exercise mirrors reality."

Those interested in competing should write to Wendy Smith, The Engineer, 30 Caterwood Street, London, SE18 6QH.

UK Events

Computer Open Day, Draganora Hotel, Leeds, September 1, First Hampshire Computer Fair, Southampton Guildhall, September 8-9, Video, Audio & Computer Show, Bradford Exposition Centre, September 15-18, Home Entertainment Show, Olympia, London, September 17-25, Computer Open Day Exhibition, Central Hotel, Glasgow, September 22, Microcomputers in Business, Warwick University, Coventry, September 27-29, MIP one-day workshop, City Conference Centre, September 29, Personal Computer World Show, Barbican Centre, London, September 29-October 2, Computer Fair, The Sir Frederic Osborn School, Welwyn Garden City, October 2.

Overseas

Personal Computers & Office Automation Systems Exhibition, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, September 5-8, Australian Computer Exhibition, Melbourne, Australia, September 13-16, International Peripheral Equipment & Software Exposition, Moscone Centre, Anaheim, USA, September 13-15. Compiled by Personal Computer News

Where's the plug?

By Alan Simpson

Far from encouraging user satisfaction, many of the documents with computer industry products are too difficult to understand. Typical are the manuals which say "Unplug connect to power source and switch on". That the user often does not know his power transformer unit from his DIN plug or PAL modulator seems to have escaped some instruction writers.

Not surprisingly, a new industry has been created, offering a guided tour round new systems. The Learning to Use book series, for example, supports popular micro models like Apple, BBC Acorn, Dragon, Oric and Pet and assumes that the user is very much in the beginners class and requires practical assistance rather than large doses of computer theory and technology.

The suppliers, Newtech Publishing, say they have problems in keeping pace with demand and the rate of introduction of new home computer equip-

ment. Newtech have also marketed Sound Training audio cassette packs which offer the business user a faster and possibly more enjoyable method of understanding his software application package. The packs are selling well not only in Europe, but surprisingly in the United States where much of the software originated.

Now training consultants and documentation specialists, Head-Line Communication of Hereford, who are responsible for the Sound Training products, have decided to spread their expertise and are presenting a series of workshops aimed at teaching teachers the fundamentals of good documentation at two-day courses.

For those who have difficulty in following Euro/Japanese translation texts on how to load and operate home video or micro-controlled cameras, proper documentation can smooth the complexities of everyday technological life.

PC-8800 Series Personal Computer. £1,501*

When NEC—component-makers to the computer world—make their own computers, naturally they make them more competitive in price.

And performance. So whatever the volume of repetitive paperwork in your business, one of NEC's new personal computers will give you a better price/performance than any other system in its price range.

Which you choose—the new NEC PC8800 or the more powerful Advanced Personal Computer—depends on the processing power required and the volume of data you wish to store—up to 20 megabytes on the APC. In either case, each machine gives you access to a wide range of business software, including integrated accounting, word processing, business planning and graphics.

Each machine has too many features to list here. But on the corner of this page, a small snippet for you could mean a giant leap for your business.

*PC-8800 WITH 12" MONOCHROME MONITOR AND DATA ENTRY DEVICE. ADVANCED PERSONAL COMPUTER WITH 12" MONOCHROME MONITOR AND DATA ENTRY DEVICE. BOTH £1,501.00. *PC-8800 WITH 12" MONOCHROME MONITOR AND DATA ENTRY DEVICE. ADVANCED PERSONAL COMPUTER WITH 12" MONOCHROME MONITOR AND DATA ENTRY DEVICE. BOTH £1,501.00.

The world's leading data services network. **GD CONTROL DATA** Phone: 01-240 3400

Is yours an 8 or a 16-bit business?



Advanced Personal Computer. £1,985*

Expand your mind. Expand your business. NEC Corporation

TOP CALIBRE PRODUCTION MANAGER

We are a fast expanding UK company in the Information Technology Field and need a fully qualified, experienced go-ahead Production Manager. You will have total responsibility for the initiation, development, management and re-location of production. You will take responsibility for the control and further development of the production line and bring to fruition any new ideas. You will be autonomous reporting only to the Managing Director.

You must be able to relate outstanding technical innovations to applications and market trends and be able to plan future systems against future needs.

This key position will appeal to a competent, imaginative individual who has had "Start-Up" experience in the past. You must also be able to travel in order to coordinate our rapidly expanding marketplace.

Salary will be negotiable (circa £25,000+) to the right person. If you feel that your experience and aspirations meet our needs please contact:

Richard Cross (Managing Director), Wordnet International Ltd., 38-44 Gillingham Street, London SW11. Telephone: 01-430 5351

INTERNATIONAL MARKETING MANAGER

£20,000 + CAR - Location: LONDON

Marketing manager sought for new high quality software programme to be marketed to corporations and financial institutions. Suitable candidates will have current experience in the Marketing side of the Computer Industry. A university degree is essential and languages preferred.

Please reply with C.V. to: Threadneedle Financial Services, Thorney Court, Palace Gate, London W8

MARKET REPORT

Index still on record run

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Aug. 15. Dealings end, Sept. 2. Contango Day, Sept. 5. Settlement Day, Sept. 12.

The stock market entered the second leg of the three-week rally, despite the seasonal fall in volume.

The FT 30 index began to dip ahead of Wall Street's opening late yesterday afternoon but boomed prices in New York reinforced London's move forward and by the close the index had gained 4.7 to 740.4.

The main boost to sentiment resulted from the better-than-expected United States money supply figures, the second good one in a row, and forecasts that United States monetary growth will be back within target over the next two months.

That defused fears of any further rises in United States interest rates, particularly as the American economic recovery is slowing. Some dealers were even talking of significant cuts. This would effectively take the pressure off British rates and rekindles hopes that Britain's clearing banks will be able to hold the 5% per cent level for longer than expected.

Government stocks came in for some heavy buying, with long-dated issues, some paying

yield of more than 10 per cent, recording gains of 1%.

That gave the government broker the opportunity needed to slip in two "tapets" totalling £500m. The sale last week of the £500m 10 per cent convertible was sold out some form of tap was needed.

Leading equities quickly followed gains higher and there were widespread gains of more than 10p. US buying put 10p onto Boots at 183p after that it had received over-the-counter US sales permission for its new pain-killing drug, ibuprofen while Beecham at 353p was 10p to the good.

News that British petrol sales are falling rapidly and the big companies may start cutting prices again soon caused some fresh selling in the oil sector.

BP dropped 6p to 438p while British lost 2p to 248p, despite reports that the fall in profits, due soon, will not be as bad as expected.

Lasmo, with profits due today, was also hit, dropping 10p to 376p. Shell lost 4p to 630p. Profit-takers moved against the Irish offshore ex-

where Lex Group featured with a 15p gain to 368p after the company managed to dampen fears over alleged problems with Volvo gear boxes.

Whitbread, up 4p at 152p, led breweries higher as the continuing good weather and news of price rises supported the sector.

In the building and construction sector Taylor Woodrow jumped 20p to 550p in anticipation of today's interim figures. Blue Circle, reporting this week, gained 7p to 445p but fears of increased competition hitting the profits of SGB Group, pushed those shares 12p lower to 144p.

London Brick held steady at 86p on hopes that Tarmac or Hanson Trust will step in to buy the company if it does not go ahead with its own bid for Hanson. London reports profit figures on Thursday, when a statement of intent is expected.

Booming August car sales helped motor distributors, Games maker John Wad-

dington's shares fell 4p to 242p as hopes faded of the group fighting off the unwanted bid from BPCC, whose offer closes today when the level of acceptances should be known.

In insurance, Commercial Union at 170p and Royal Insurance at 560p held steady even though both companies are heavily involved in Texas where a hurricane has caused £1m worth of damage. Analysts say CU will lose £6.5m and Royal between £5m and £10m.

Also firming ahead of interim figures due this week was Hawley Group at 185p, up 8p and Electro-Protective, 7p better at 183p.

One stock to lose favour with the speculators was Bellair which slumped 40p to 580p. Machinery stakeholder Wasson Establishment has still not begun work on its offer document for Harold Ingrams, suspended at 300p, and has not responded to calls for further information about its intended activity for the two minnow companies.

Wayne Lintott

RECENT ISSUES

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

STOCKS

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

BOND

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

BREWERS AND DISTILLERS

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

A-B

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

STOCKS

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

BREWERS AND DISTILLERS

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

A-B

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

STOCKS

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

BREWERS AND DISTILLERS

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

A-B

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

STOCKS

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

Company	Price
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3
Alcon Group 25p (115s)	101.3

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Investment
and
FinanceCity Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office
200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EZ
Telephone 01-557 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 740.4 up 4.7
FT 100 Index 79.82 up 0.31
FT All Shares 485.67 up 4.85
Bargains 19.883
Datastream USM Leaders
Index 102.28 down 0.89
New York Dow Jones
Average (latest): 1,203.46
up 9.25
Tokyo Stock Exchange
Average: 9,203.75 up 66.62
Hong Kong Hang Seng
Index 1,000.23 up 3.95
Amsterdam 153.3 up 1.8
Sydney AO Index 890.8 up 5.9
Frankfurt Commerzbank
Index 940.10 down 2.10
Brussels General Index
133.25 up 0.16
Paris CAC Index 136 up 1.0
Zurich SKA General 289.1
up 0.4

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5290 up 1.1 cent
Index 85.8 up 0.1
DM 4.0275 down 0.0075
FF 12.10 down 0.02
Yen 371.50 up 1.0
Dollar
Index 127.5 down 0.7
DM 2.6310

NEW YORK LATEST

Sterling \$1.5305
INTERNATIONAL
ECU 5.565959
SDR 20.693798

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rate 9%
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week
fixed 9%
3 month interbank 9%
3 month FR 14%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10-10%
3 month DM 5%
3 month FR 14%
US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9%
Treasury long bond 103 29/32-
103 27/32

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme - IV
Average reference rate for
interest period 6 July to 2
August, 1983 inclusive: 9.988
percent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$412.25 pm \$421.75
close \$424.50 up \$7
New York latest: \$421.75
Kruggerand (per coin):
\$436.50-438 (\$285.25-286.25)
Sovereigns (new):
\$89.50-100.50 (\$65-65.75)
Excludes VAT

TODAY

Interim American Trust,
Copydex, De Beers, Electro-
Protective, Fife Indmar, Hong-
kong & Shanghai
Corporation, George Ingham,
Liberty Life Association of
Africa, London and Scottish
Marine Oil, Pragma, Rentokil,
Standard Chartered Bank,
Taylor Woodrow.
Finals: Apex Properties, Dura
Mill, Smith Whitworth, Stod-
dard Holdings.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Triplex Foundries, West Brom-
wich Moor House, Beeches
Road (noon).

● Yelverton Investments in
which financiers Mr Jim Slater
and Mr John Bentley have big
shares stakes, has used its
option to buy a further 15 per
cent of Wordnet information
processing system for £150,000.
This takes its stake to 40 per
cent and makes the company,
which has designed a system
that can link eight electric
typewriters to a single word
processor or small computer,
Yelverton's biggest single in-
vestment.

Now Wordnet has signed
contracts with three big dis-
tributors including AES, one of
the world's largest word proc-
essing companies, which have
already placed orders for £5m of
equipment.

● Linford Holdings is to seek
shareholders approval for a
name change to Dee Corpora-
tion. Frank Dee Supermarkets
is part of the group. The board
believes the Linford name fits
the company to food wholesal-
ing, whereas retailing now
accounts for some 75 per cent of
its profits.

● Charterhouse Petroleum has
agreed to take over the 70 per
cent shares in Jubilee Oil it does
not already hold. The deal
involves Charterhouse issuing
up to 3.1 million ordinary
shares to Jubilee shareholders,
and a further 2.9 million if the
first well drilled in the two
Jubilee North Sea blocks show
significant oil reserves.

● BAYER of West Germany
has improved its first half world
group pretax to DM660m
(\$217m) from DM722m in the
same period last year.

New company will be fourth biggest grocery retailer

Gulliver merges food and drink
chains into Argyll Group

By Andrew Connell
Mr James Gulliver, the Scot
who made his name by
transforming the Fine Fare
supermarket chain in the 1960s,
yesterday announced details of
a proposed merger between his
Argyll Foods group and Amer-
igamated Distillers Products to
create a new force in the British
food and drinks industry.

The new company, Argyll-
Group, will have a market
capitalization of £250m, annual
sales of £1,360m, and forecast
pretax profits of £26.5m in the
year to March 31 1984.
It brings together 900 Presto,
Templetons and Liptons stores
owned by Argyll with ADP,
which is one of Scotland's last
remaining independent whisky
producers.

The paper group will rank
fourth in Britain behind Sains-
bury, Tesco and Asda in the
food retailing sector and third
behind Victoria Wine and
Arthur Cooper in terms of off-
licence sales.

Mr Gulliver claimed yester-
day that his ultimate ambition

ARGYLL GROUP (£m)			
	Argyll Foods	ADP Group	Argyll Group
Turnover	1135	230.3	1365.3
Pretax profits (year ending April 2 1983)	21.6	7.2	28.8
Forecast pretax profits (year ending March 31 1984)	28.0	8.5	36.5

is to beat Sainsbury and become
Britain's biggest food retailer.

The merger of Argyll Foods
and ADP has been effected
through a new holding com-
pany, Argyll Group, which was
previously called James Gul-
liver Associates.

The merger will be on the
basis of one ordinary share of
the new company for every
ordinary share in Argyll Foods,
and four shares of the new
company for every three shares
in ADP.

Last night Argyll Foods
shares were unchanged at 126p
while shares of ADP were down
by 3p at 165p.

Mr Gulliver outlined four
main reasons for concluding the
deal.

First, it would create greater
scale in the food and drinks
industry at a time when there is
growing concentration of mar-
ket share in the hands of big
corporations, both in Britain
and internationally.

Second, it would allow Argyll
to diversify in the longer term
to avoid the stiff competition
which will emerge in food
retailing if the big groups
continue their rapid expansion.

Third, the deal would pro-
vide opportunities for expan-



Gulliver: challenging Sainsbury

sion in the US through ADP's
Barton Brands drinks business.

Fourth, it would offer im-
portant distribution oppor-
tunities for ADP, whose liquor
brands could be sold through
Argyll stores.

Mr Gulliver said he was
looking at the possibility of
putting some of ADP's Liquor-
save off-licences into Argyll's
Presto stores.

Mr Gulliver said that the
continued development of the

Presto stores chain will not be
affected by the merger and that
20 stores are planned to open
next year.

The new group is forecasting
pretax profits of £36.5m in the
year to March 31, 1984, against
combined pretax profits of
£28.8m in the 1982/1983
financial year. The board
promises to recommend a
dividend of 4.5p per ordinary
share in the new company in
the year to March 31, 1984.

Gulliver's personal
holding in the new company will
be 7.5 million shares, or 3.8 per
cent of the total equity.

Mr Gulliver was chairman of
the Fine Fare supermarket
company at the age of 33. He
left in 1973 with "a few hundred
thousand pounds" and bought
Oriol Foods for £2m. He sold it
after a year for £11m.

He began building a stake in
ADP in 1979 and acquired most
of the supermarkets in the
Argyll Foods chain in a £104m
deal with Generale Occidentale
in June last year.

Investors' Notebook, page 16

City Editor's Comment

Shaking off the
'hidden' handout

The big city investment
institutions are becoming
increasingly irritated about
golden handshakes to
executives who are forced
out of companies after
boardroom rows, takeover
bids and poor results.

And if the City insti-
tutions are furious, for once
it can be taken as read that
they fully reflect the frus-
trations of smaller share-
holders who are in no
position to vent their anger
effectively.

The complaint is not
new. What annoys pension
funds and unit trusts most
is that they learn about
these arrangements only
when they have been ac-
tivated when it is usually too
late to take any effective
action.

There are certain limits
to this argument. For in-
stance, company prospec-
tuses lay out significant
directors' contracts and in
the case of an already
quoted company, they
should be available for
inspection at the company's
annual meeting.

Furthermore, service
contracts lasting more than
five years should be for-
mally approved by share-
holders.

But there is still plenty of
scope for executive direc-
tors to protect themselves.
Some pension fund man-
agers contend that the five-
year rolling contract of Sir
John Mayhew-Sanders,
recently departed chairman
and chief executive of the
ailing John Brown group, is
the last straw for them
since it theoretically added
up to some £400,000 but
escaped beneath the wire of
shareholder approval.

Other apparently contro-
versial recent episodes in-
clude options for directors
of UBM, profitably signed
a few days before a take-
over bid from Norcor, and
a service contract until
1986 for a director of AE,
actually arranged after first
news of an agreed takeover
by Guest, Keen and Nettle-
folds. These latter cases,
while unfortunate, are not a
source for scandal. Other
AE directors, for instance
already had similar service

contracts, and the new one
is not thought to have
raised any objections from
GKN.

In a case where post-
merger rationalization is
called for, the bidding
company may not want to
demote a competent man-
ager from apparently
making himself redundant.

The John Brown case is the
more pertinent one from a
number of viewpoints. In
practice, Sir John May-
hew-Sanders will receive
only £180,000 compen-
sation.

That may be too much
for many small share-
holders of a company which
got into deep trouble under
Sir John's leadership. But,
though he made expensive
mistakes and argued what
in the end proved an
unsustainable strategy for
the company, few doubt
that Sir John is a manager
of some class with many
achievements to his name.

The British tax system
encourages companies to
reward their executives via
pension arrangements to an
excessive degree and the
penalties on leaving prema-
turely are equally steep.

What is more, as Sir
Michael Edwards has
noted, British managers do
not normally have the same
ability as their counterparts
in other capitalist countries
to build up capital from
high salaries. Clearly, a
balance must be drawn
between the discipline to
perform and financial pro-
tection for those taking on
difficult jobs.

The real question is
about disclosure. The
schemes so far put up - for
instance, for a semi-private
register of service contracts -
are elitist and inadequate.
Much progress has been
made in recent years in
disclosing directors' salar-
ies in annual accounts.

This should be expanded
to include pension arrange-
ments and service contracts
on the same, mostly anonym-
ous terms. Managers
should not be embarrassed
by their contracts, if they
are, the contracts are prob-
ably bad.

Call for increased
pensions mobility

Employers could afford to
improve pension benefits for
job changes at little or no extra
cost, according to pension
consultants Metropolitan Pen-
sion Association.

In a discussion paper on
improving the pension benefits
of early leavers the association
concludes: "The real value of
deferred pensions could be fully
maintained over the period of
deferment with very little
increase in contribution re-
quirements - perhaps no change
at all if recent scheme experi-
ence has been favourable."

The paper comes after the
recent announcement of an
urgent review of pensions by the
Government.

Mr Norman Fowler, Social
Security Secretary, has called
for a conference for September
14 to discuss pension problems,
and representatives from the
Confederation of British Indus-
try, the Trades Union Congress
and the Centre for Policy
Studies will be attending.

The Government is known to
be concerned about the effects
on job mobility of poor deferred
pension benefits and has indi-
cated that legislation could be
introduced if voluntary solu-
tions are not found.

Under existing legislation it
is possible for an employee who
has worked for a company for
up to five years to change jobs
and lose all pension entitle-
ments.

The Occupational Pensions
Board recommended in 1981
that early leavers' pension
benefits be uprated by 5 per
cent a year in the interval
between leaving a pension
scheme and retirement age.

Referring to this recommen-
dation the association says:
"We have examined the effect
of implementing this recom-
mendation on contribution
requirements for a significant
number of schemes and in most
cases the additional contribu-
tion requirement has fallen in
the range 0.5 per cent to 1 per
cent of payroll."

"If explicit funding provision
is made for increases at 5 per
cent per annum, then in prin-
ciple, pension in payment can
be increased in line with the
Retail Prices Index."

The association also criticizes
as inequitable the use by
employers investment returns
on early leavers' contributions
to reduce pension costs. It says:
"Members benefits should rep-
resent (at a minimum) a fair
return for the contributions they
themselves have paid."

"The particular cross-subsidy
which results in the interest
earned on contributions paid
during service being applied to
reduce company contributions in
respect of other members does
seem hard to defend."

Early 12-point rise in Dow

New York, (AP-Dow Jones) -
Stocks were holding their early
gains yesterday but volume was
moderate and further progress
was proving elusive.

The Dow Jones Industrial
Average was up about 12 points
at 1,206 - about the same gain it
showed in the first half hour of
trading yesterday. Advances
were 2 to 1 ahead of losers.

Miss Hildegard Zagorak,
market strategist at Prudential-
Bache Securities said: "It has
been a normal reaction to the
money supply with stocks
following the upturn in bonds."
"The problem is volume - it
just isn't there. If volume and
breadth improve it would help
but otherwise it will indicate
that the technical bounce of the
past couple of weeks is over."

Mr Richard McCabe, techni-
cal analyst at Merrill Lynch,
said he found it hard to make
the case that the oil stock rally

WALL STREET

represented a major or perma-
nent shift of leadership.

Instead he said: "It seems to
be part of a pattern of inde-
cision in which there is not an
obvious or persistent thread
of leadership" as opinion wavered
between "fear of the economic
recovery overheating and fear of
it stalling."

International Business Ma-
chines was 122 3/4, up 1/2;
General Motors 69 1/4, up 7/8;
Ford 57 1/4, up 5/8; General
Electric 48 1/8, up 5/8; Lase-
152, up 1 1/2; Halliburton 45
5/8, up 1/4; Superior Oil 37 1/2,
up 1/8; and Texas Instruments
111 3/4, up 1 1/8.

Mobil was up 1 1/8 at 34 1/2;
Mercantile Stores up 2 1/2 at 56
1/4; Cooper Laboratories up 2
at 34 3/4; Motorola down 1/4
at 129 1/4; NCR up 1 at 114 3/4.



Taking off: the Boeing and Airbus Industrie contenders for the JAL contract

Planemakers look East for key deal

By John Lawless

The three planemakers
locked in battle to sell British
Airways £500m worth of air-
craft to replace its Trident fleet
watch in fascination this week
as Japan Airlines (JAL) begins
the same decision-making pro-
cess.

As in BA's case, JAL will
announce its decision this
autumn, with the short-range
jets due in service by 1985.

The technical side of the talks
has been exhausted. Boeing
demonstrated the 767, already
well-known capabilities in
Tokyo in February. The A310
Airbus followed it in March.

McDonnell Douglas has only
been able to fly a "paper plane",
because it is offering the
MD100, effectively the replace-
ment of the ill-fated DC10,
which it scrapped last month.
The MD100 is still at the design
stage.

Surprisingly, the three-year-
old negotiations have received
some of the coverage given to
the bidding for BA's business.

The reason is simple. JAL has

seen how an impending de-
cision by a Japanese multi-
national company nowadays
has a riveting effect on foreign
audiences (as in the case of
Nissan and its location for a
European car plant).

As in BA's case, JAL will
announce its decision this
autumn, with the short-range
jets due in service by 1985.

The technical side of the talks
has been exhausted. Boeing
demonstrated the 767, already
well-known capabilities in
Tokyo in February. The A310
Airbus followed it in March.

McDonnell Douglas has only
been able to fly a "paper plane",
because it is offering the
MD100, effectively the replace-
ment of the ill-fated DC10,
which it scrapped last month.
The MD100 is still at the design
stage.

Surprisingly, the three-year-
old negotiations have received
some of the coverage given to
the bidding for BA's business.

The reason is simple. JAL has

ceded to back up the niceties of
their financial proposals.
Japan's growing trade surplus
with their respective continents.

The only reference that JAL
has ever made to the number of
aircraft it might order came in a
briefing text to its senior
managers overseas from com-
pany president, Mr Yasumoto
Takagi, 13 months ago.

The fact that it indicated it
would place an order for 10
aircraft, although it is scrapping
20, will not be a great
disappointment to whoever
wins the order.

For JAL's buy policy is to
place an initial order, and top
up (always with the same plane)
as demand dictates.

The remnants of its DC8
fleet, of which it once had 50,
contains planes that were
delivered in every year between
1968 and 1973.

Significantly, of three main
conditions attached to the
purchase - beyond seating

capacity of 200 to 250, and fuel-
efficiency of at least 6 to 8 per
cent better than the DC8s - was
one that any aircraft must have
"the potential for future techni-
cal developments".

In other words, the world's
largest owner of Boeing 747s,
pointed out: "Once we are in
with an aircraft, we want to be
able to stay in for a long time."

The only "guesstimate" as to
the value of any initial contract
came in one of the few Japanese
newspaper stories on the sub-
ject about £270m.

The difference between JAL
and BA, though, is that the
Japanese will not be leasing
their new planes - although a
purchase may have made it
easier for them to squeeze
aircraft manufacturers, desper-
ate for orders.

I would be a big coup if
Airbus Industrie - in which
Britain has a 20 per cent wing-
making stake via British Aero-
space - was to join McDonnell
Douglas for the JAL fleet.

Significantly, of three main
conditions attached to the
purchase - beyond seating

John Brown
pays out
£180,000

By Our Financial Staff

Sir John Mayhew-Sanders,
the former chairman of John
Brown, the troubled engineering
company, will receive compen-
sation for loss of office of
£180,000.

Sir John Cuckney, John
Brown's chairman, confirmed
yesterday that he had negotiated
the settlement with Sir John
Mayhew-Sanders' lawyers.

Sir John Mayhew-Sander had
a five-year rolling service
contract which, based on his
annual salary of more than
£81,000, had given rise to
speculation that he could
receive £400,000.

Such a figure, would have
been a record for a "golden
handshake". Sir John May-
hew-Sanders' lawyers are thought
to have asked for more.

Institutional shareholders
furious at the prospect of John
Brown paying £400,000, are still
likely to question the agreed
figure but will probably accept

Confusion as Brazil
seeks debts deal

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Senior Antonio Delfim Netto,
the Brazilian planning minister,
returned to Brazil over the
weekend after his emergency
talk with M. Jacques de
Laroque, managing director of
the International Monetary
Fund.

Senior Netto also met M
Michel Camdessus, chairman of
the Paris Club, to request a
rescheduling of Brazil's official
government-guaranteed debts.

The Paris Club, an ad hoc
group of western creditor
governments, is expected to
meet later to discuss Brazil's
debts.

However, the British
Government has yet to be
formally notified of the request
and there was confusion yester-
day over reports that Brazil was
ceasing all payments on official
debts, which are estimated at
\$7bn to \$8bn (£4.5bn to
£5.2bn).

The export Credits Guar-
antee Department confirmed yes-

Robinow
merger
expected

By Vivien Goldsmith

Dealings were suspended
yesterday in the shares of
Crosby House, the freight
forwarding and container
storage company, and Right-
way, a subsidiary involved in
cultivation of tea, rubber and
cocoa.

The boards announced that
they are discussing a full merger
of the two companies.

Crosby House, which is
controlled by the Robinow
family's International Invest-
ment Trust Company of Jersey,
holds 51.36 per cent of Right-
way.

Dealings in Sampang (Java)
Rubber, another Crosby House
subsidiary, were also suspended.

By injecting its Jazerite
Holdings into Crosby the
Robinow family - largely Mr
Hermann Robinow, a director
of N M Rothschild, and his son,
Mr Richard Robinow - gained
control of the company.

GE buys
aviation
stake

By Our Banking Correspondent

General Electric of the
United States has taken a 22.7
per cent stake in Guinness Peat
Aviation (GPA), the aircraft
leasing business, with an \$18m
 (£11.8m) capital injection.

GPA is an associate of
Guinness Peat, the banking and
formerly commodities group.

The capital injection is
important for Guinness Peat
because it will allow it to
revalue substantially its stake in
GPA. The stake was valued at
£1.1m in the accounts of April
30, 1982, but revalued to £6.6m
in October, 1982.

After the capital injection,
Guinness Peat and the other big
shareholders, Aer Lingus and
Air Canada, will hold 22.7 per
cent each. Guinness Peat will
therefore be able to nearly
double the value at which it
carries its GPA stake in the
balance sheet.

GPA is expected to gain a
quotation and it is thought this
would place a higher value on it
than the \$79m imputed by the
General Electric deal. It made
profits of \$9.1m (£6.2m) last
year.

Guinness Peat, which last
month announced a return to a
small profit in its latest half-
year to April 30, has been
working hard to reduce borrow-
ings.

It recently sold a London
property for £3.5m

COMPANY NEWS
IN BRIEF

W. H. Sharpe
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £1.8m (£2.55m)
Stated earnings 12p (19.5p)
Turnover £7.9m (£7.9m)
Net interim 4.5p (4p)

Supra Group
Half-year to 31.5.83
Pretax profit £221,000 (£282,000)
Stated earnings 1.2p (1.2p)
Turnover £5.3m (£5m)
Net interim dividend 0.75p (same)
Share price 36p unchanged

Ingersoll-Rand
Year to 30.12.82
Pretax profit £4.7m (£5.2m)
Net dividend none (same)

Spens and Sons
Year to 30.12.82
Pretax loss £287,000 (profit £374,000)
Loss per share 6.73p (profit 6.52p)
Turnover £12.4m (£14.7m)
Net dividend 0.1p (5p)

Resource Technology
Year to 30.4.82
Pretax profit £744,000 (£530,000)
Stated earnings 9p (5p)
Turnover £4.1m (£3.7m)
Net dividend none (same)
Share price 177 down 2p

● **First Charlotte Assets Trust** - The company has received acceptance for its rights issue of 45 million shares at 10p a share from shareholders representing 98.1 per cent of its issued capital.

● **Boustead** - The company has issued 1.47 million shares to pay for the property known as 12-18 Arbury Lane, London E1, to rehouse its commodity operations. The shares are worth about £948,000 and have been admitted to the official list.

Base
Lending
Rates

ABN Bank	9 1/2 %
Barclays	9 1/2 %
BCCI	9 1/2 %
Citibank Savings	11.0 %
Consolidated Crds	9 1/2 %
C. Hoare & Co	9 1/2 %
Lloyds Bank	9 1/2 %
Midland Bank	9 1/2 %
Nat Westminster	9 1/2 %
TSB	9 1/2 %
Williams & Glyn's	9 1/2 %

* 7 day deposits on basis of tender
10.000, 25.000, 50.000 up to
250.000, 500.000 and over.
% = Marginal Rate.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

Merger brightens ADP's prospects

Shareholders of Amalgamated Distilled Products appear to have won the best deal after the decision to merge ADP with the Argyll Foods group, using Mr James Gulliver's family company, James Gulliver Associates, as the vehicle.

The new company, Argyll Group, will have a turnover of £1,365m a year and forecast pretax profits of £36.5m in the year to next March 31. That represents a 27 per cent increase in the last reported pretax profits of the two companies trading separately.

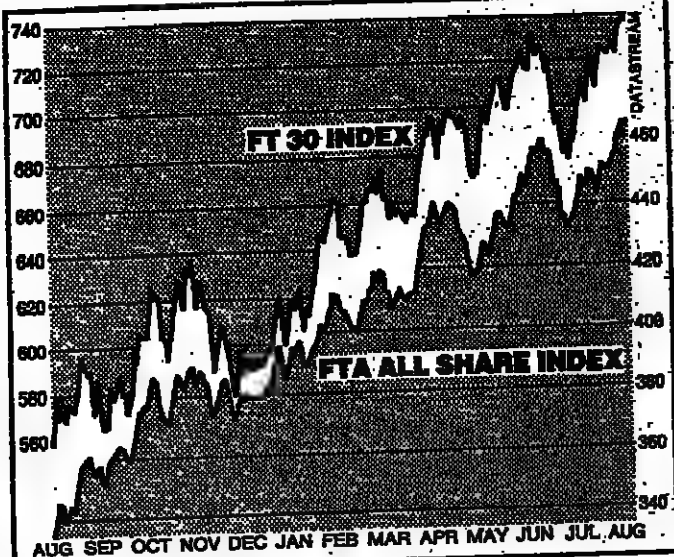
More exciting for ADP shareholders is a forecast total dividend of 4.5p per share over the same period, an increase of 118 per cent.

Moreover, the merger favours ADP shareholders in crude terms of industrial logic. Four new Argyll Group shares are being offered for every three shares in ADP, while existing shareholders of Argyll Foods will be offered a straight one-for-one swap.

On price alone the deal also is good for ADP shareholders who will make about 4p on the four-for-three deal at yesterday morning's prices.

Even better are the longer term prospects for the ADP business within the newly-merged group. Without a merger ADP would have run into trouble trying to launch its own spirits brands without the backing of a retail sales group like Argyll, which is now Britain's fourth biggest grocery retail chain.

The new Argyll, with the merger out of the way, will consider including an ADP off



licence store within each Presto supermarket.

On top of that, Argyll will be able to use its muscle to encourage breweries to stock ADP products in exchange for shelf space in Presto stores for its own beers and spirits. Both will make about 4p on the four-for-three deal at yesterday morning's prices.

Even better are the longer term prospects for the ADP business within the newly-merged group. Without a merger ADP would have run into trouble trying to launch its own spirits brands without the backing of a retail sales group like Argyll, which is now Britain's fourth biggest grocery retail chain.

The new Argyll, with the merger out of the way, will consider including an ADP off

so fast that they are bound to meet head on. At that point a price war could cut margins to the bone, leaving diversification into related, but more profitable areas a necessity.

Equities

Equities showed some renewed buoyancy yesterday but, the season notwithstanding, the market seems to be in the grip of two conflicting sets of forces (which are not far and green).

In one corner are the essentially good prospects for the corporate sector, helped by the consumer boom; in the other corner are nervous uncertainties about American interest rates and all the

consequences for the domestic British economy.

To some extent, however, these two sets of forces should have been reconciled by the possibility of higher interest rates being discounted in current equity prices.

There is a broad agreement in the City that corporate profits will rise by about 20 per cent this year, the best performance for a while.

But since this assumption has also been built into equity prices for some months, the message seems to be that the market does not have much further to go this year.

One factor which certainly could temporarily put a ceiling on the market is static institutional liquidity in the second half, possibly compounded by government sales, for example of British Petroleum and other stocks singled out for disposal.

In itself, however, this should have no more than a temporary effect.

But whatever the theory about discounting, no market is perfect, and the chances are that a rise in American interest rates would prompt a fall in the London market.

Beyond that are the prospects of higher inflation and a subsiding consumer boom next year.

Peerless

Peerless shareholders may this year see some of the promise of 1980 when the company went public only to see profits collapse in the recession.

Its new foam moulding business, which makes cabinets for computer equipment, broke even last year and should contribute its first profit this year.

Progress has also been made in the domestic engineering business which moved into the black at the end of the first quarter of this year, later than hoped, but there are now prospects of further improvement.

Nevertheless, competition is still affecting the metals division - mainly selling brass and

Peerless - Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit £1.5m (£1.47m)
Stated earnings 11.1p (10.6p)
Turnover £36.7m (£31m)
Net total dividend 8.3p (6.3p)
Share price 92p Yield 9.8%

aluminium - where prices have been on a downward slide.

Trading has improved over the last month, and electronics also improved both sales and profits.

The black spot is the "Homecentres" kitchen furniture business. Its future is "under consideration".

Doubtful interest charges of £668,000 against £321,000 reflected higher borrowings from heavy expenditure on plant and increased working capital. Gearing is about 50 per cent, higher than the company wants.

At 92p the shares are trading at 8p less than they were sold in 1980 when the issue was oversubscribed 14 times. If there is no improvement this year shareholders may be forgiven for losing patience.

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		NICKEL		COPPER		ZINC		LEAD		TIN		SILVER		PLATINUM		GOLD		PALLADIUM		RHODIUM		IRIDIUM		COBALT		MANGANESE		VANADIUM		MOLYBDENUM		TUNGSTEN		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM		TANTALUM		NIOBIUM		ZIRCONIUM		HAFNIUM</	
-----------------------	--	--------	--	--------	--	------	--	------	--	-----	--	--------	--	----------	--	------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	---------	--	--------	--	-----------	--	----------	--	------------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--	-----------	--	-----------	--

Privatization - 1: Jonathan Davis on the prospects and problems

Turning the big guns on the state frontier

In the first four years of Mrs Thatcher's Government, privatization and public sector sales raised £2bn for the Treasury. In the next five years, the total could be as much as £10bn, if all goes according to the Government's plan.

This includes an estimated £4bn from the planned sale of 51 per cent of the shares in British Telecom, the first tranche of which is scheduled to be offered in the autumn of next year.

The new company will be vying with BP for the title of Britain's largest single quoted company.

It is clear that the Government's privatization programme is now entering a more ambitious phase, both in scale and scope.

Not only are the sums involved becoming larger, but the tentacles of privatization are now spreading for the first time into the "heartland" industries that were the original target of Mrs Thatcher's pledge to "roll back the frontiers of the state".

The Conservative party manifesto at the last election talked of the Government's intention to sell all or part of British Telecom, British Airways, Rolls-Royce, British Shipbuilders, BL and the British Airports Authority.

In terms of assets, numbers employed and strategic influence, these candidates for sell-off dwarf most of those that have gone before.

The Government is also intending to introduce private capital into the National Bus Company; dispose of the North Sea oil assets of British Gas (and possibly later privatize the corporation as a whole); sell off the Royal Ordnance factories and complete the disposal of British Rail's hovercraft and Sealink offshoots.

The electricity supply industry is also coming under scrutiny: the chairman of both the Electricity Council and the Central Electricity Generating Board have been told by the Government to investigate the possibility of introducing private capital into their operations.

It is no secret that the Prime Minister and her hardline Cabinet supporters were disappointed with the slow progress that was made in her first term with both the sell-off programme and the introduction of competitive and market disciplines into the hard core state industries such as coal, rail and electricity.

Mrs Thatcher and Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, have made it clear that they want the tempo and range of privatization to be stepped up. This decision was motivated by the Government's well-publicized concern at the need to find ways of mitigating the long-term rise in public spending forecast by both the Treasury and the now disbanded Think Tank.

The sudden package of spending cuts and increased asset sales announced last month by Mr Lawson was hardly the best opening shot for a privatization campaign.

By announcing the sale of another £500m chunk of BP shares - the simplest expedient open to him for meeting his new asset sale target of £1.25bn for this financial year - Mr Lawson has been unable to escape the charge of selling valuable capital assets simply to balance the Government's revenue account. This policy has been described by one nationalized industry as "selling the family silver to subsidize riotous living".



Lawson: stepping up the tempo

The package has been coolly received in the City and was not wildly popular with many of Mr Lawson's Cabinet colleagues, who resented the maladroitness in which it was presented.

Nevertheless, the Treasury is pressing ahead with new higher forecasts of the sums to be raised by selling state assets. An ambitious junior Treasury minister, Mr John Moore, has been put in charge of coordinating the privatization proposals put forward by sponsoring departments - which in practice means primarily Transport, Energy and Trade and Industry.

The White Paper on public spending published at Budget-time envisaged special sales of assets raising £750m this financial year, £1.5bn next year, and £500m the year after. Apart from this year's revised target of £1.25bn, no other official figures have been given.

But with the British Telecom sale alone expected to raise £4bn (albeit almost certainly spread over three years), the White Paper numbers are clearly too conservative.

Of the other immediate candidates for privatization, British Airways and the oil assets of British Gas also involve substantial sums.

Of the other immediate candidates for privatization, British Airways and the oil assets of British Gas also involve substantial sums.

British Airways will now be ready for privatization by the end of next year, according to Lord King, its chairman. Depending on the way the Government decides to handle its outstanding debts and pension fund liabilities, the corporation's resources - to profitability this year - could be valued by the market at anything between £500m and £1bn.

It is likely, however, that the sale will be delayed until the 1985-86 financial year, considering the competition of market funds from the Telecom issue.

The British Gas oilfields disposal was originally scheduled for the end of this financial year, but may now be delayed until next year. The Government has still to decide whether to float the assets as a separate company, or sell them piecemeal to other oil companies. They could fetch between £300m and £500m.

City analysts estimate that the total asset sales proceeds should average £2bn a year from next year, with 1984-85 as the peak year.

The Institute of Directors, which has been pressing the

GOVERNMENT HOLDINGS		
	Residual shareholding	Market value
British Cable and Wireless	45%	£200m
Associated British Ports	45%	£35m
British Aerospace	45%	£175m
British Petroleum	39%	£2,120m

GOVERNMENT ASSET SALE PROCEEDS		
	1979/80	1980/81
1981/82	£256m	£273m
1982/83	£503m	
1983/84	£1,250m (target)	

Government to finance tax cuts by asset sales of £10bn over five years, believes that there are now sufficient projects, either in hand or close to completion, to meet their demands.

Whether this sort of programme amounts to the fundamental shift in the balance of power between the public and private sectors which Government rhetoric promises remains to be seen.

The last four years' experience suggests that the legal, technical and political obstacles that lie between a manifesto promise and its realization are formidable.

Ministers and officials are all too aware that so far they have succeeded in bringing only the relatively "easy" candidates into the private sector: Cable & Wireless, Amersham, British Aerospace, Associated British Ports and even British Telecom, all companies that were (to varying degrees) well-run, competitive, profitable and attractive to investors.

BP, of course, has operated as a wholly independent commercial company since the Government first took a majority shareholding in 1914.

The future candidates pose far more problems, either because they have a poor commercial record (like BL, British Shipbuilders and until recently British Airways), or because (like British Rail, the electricity industry and British Telecom) their businesses have a monopoly or non-commercial nature.

One main constraint on a faster programme, already extending to Mr Lawson, is the amount of new equity share capital the stock market can absorb. With shares at a record and £2bn of new equity capital already raised in the first seven months of the year, market conditions are about as buoyant as they could be.

Most analysts are confident that the market will be able to absorb the British Telecom and other issues now planned, especially if the sums raised are offset by lower than expected sales of gilts and the big institutions tire of their spurge of investment abroad.

Nevertheless, with total institutional purchases of equities now running at £4bn, there is a limit to how many share issues the Government can expect to pass off, especially if it wants to avoid knocking share prices as a whole and crowding out private companies that want to raise funds.

This is one reason why ministers continue to explore alternative methods of privatization, including joint ventures (the favoured solution of the steel industry, for example) and direct sales of businesses to private sector companies - as may happen with the oil assets of British Gas and the profitable shipyard yards in British Shipbuilders.

Asset sales have been likened to 'selling the family silver'

THE IMMEDIATE CANDIDATES

Govt holding	Form	Timing	Value
BP	39%	Sale of £500m shares	£200-400m
British Gas oilfields	-	Share issue or sale to oil companies	£200-400m
British Telecom	100%	Issue of 51% shares	£2,000-2,500m
British Airways	100%	Sale of 51% shares	£500-1,000m
British Shipbuilders	100%	Sale of shipyard yards	£200-300m
British Layland	100%	Sale of profitable subsidiaries	£200m
British Airports Authority	100%	Issue of shares	£400m
British Steel	100%	Company or individual shares	£400m
Royal Ordnance	100%	Industry sale joint ventures	unknown
Rolls-Royce	100%	Undecided	£200-400m
British Rail	100%	Undecided	£100m
		Sale of Sealink/hovercraft	£100m

County Bank names chairman

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

Fitch and Company: Mr Colin Wiltshire and Mr Michael Howard have joined the board.

Wace Group: Mr E. A. Pryor has been appointed deputy chairman.

County Bank: Mr John Padovan has been appointed chairman from January 1. Mr John Padovan will remain on the board. Mr Padovan will be the first executive chairman of the bank. Mr Charles Vickers will be the first non-executive chairman. Mr Jonathan Cohen deputy chief executive on January 1.

Blind Quest: Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP, has become a non-executive director.

W. E. Norton Holdings: Mr P. M. Wiegand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Carr have been appointed directors.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company: Mr Stanley Rember has been appointed a worker director.

